

THE TIMES Tomorrow

The Greene years Tributes to Graham Greene, Britain's greatest living novelist, on his eightieth birthday



Eastern promise David Howell, MP, on Hong Kong's future under Chinese rule Riding to the top Jenny MacArthur previews the Burghley Horse Trials Story time Reviews of fiction by Muriel Spark, Michael Moorcock and others

Portfolio

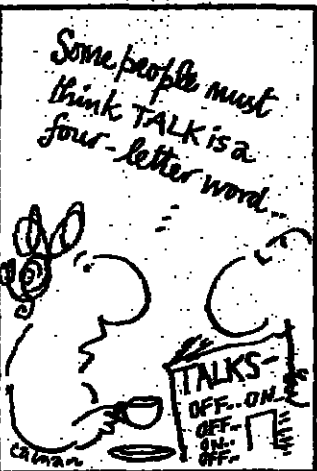
The Times Portfolio competition prize was shared between two winners yesterday. Mr Anthony Stoddard of Kew, London, and Mr Philip Dhillon of Finchley, London, each received £1,000. Portfolio list page 16: how to play, information service, back page.

Agreement close in Israel talks

Unexpected progress in the Labour-Likud negotiations which had appeared stalled makes it likely that a government of national unity may be formed soon in Israel. Mr Moshe Shaiel, the Labour whip, said: "All controversial matters have been solved" and the stage has been set for a resumption of talks between Mr Peres and Mr Shamir. See page 5.

Farmers try to beat milk quotas

More than 20,000 dairy farmers, nearly half the total number in England and Wales, have applied for treatment as special cases under the EEC milk quota scheme introduced earlier this year. Page 2



Reuters plea

Reuters news agency has appealed for help in finding Jonathan Wright, a correspondent missing in Lebanon for a week. Wall of silence, page 5

11 patients die

Eleven patients have died at the Stanley Royd psychiatric hospital at Wakefield after a food poisoning epidemic which began 10 days ago.

Cauthen talks

Steve Cauthen, poised to become the first American to win the English Jockeys' title since Danny Maher in 1913, gives a rare interview. Page 20

Leader page 13 Letters: On miners, from Mr C D H Everett, and Mr R Hickman; MP EEC, from Mr P Allott; history from Mr J Clifford. Leading articles: Pit talks; Sharpeville; Korb crawling; Festures, pages 10-12. Will families benefit from a minimum wage, asks Frank Field; The Minnesota roots of Walter Mondale; Part three of Norman Macrae's future vision; A new book on the symbolic strength of the Greenham women. Obituary, page 14. M Gaston-Palewski, The Rev Professor James Kinley. Classified, pages 21-26. La crème de la crème: Property.

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Acrimony as coal peace process verges on collapse

● Talks planned tomorrow between coal board and miners' leaders were cancelled yesterday and the peace process neared collapse as both sides dug deeper into entrenched positions. ● The Prime Minister, rejecting Labour's request for a recall of Parliament, said the dispute could be quickly settled if the NUM accepted closure of uneconomic pits. ● Mr Neil Kinnock called at the TUC conference, for support for striking miners but condemned the "tiny, tiny few" responsible for picket line violence. ● Sterling fell to a record low of \$1.2905 against the dollar before recovering slightly. The failure of a pit peace initiative was held partly to blame. Page 15

From Paul Routledge, Labour Editor, Brighton

The peace process in the pit strike faltered last night and looked certain to collapse as both sides dug deeper into their entrenched bargaining positions.

Talks due to take place tomorrow were cancelled yesterday after the National Coal Board made clear that it was not willing to reopen negotiations unless the National Union of Mineworkers accepted that closure of "uneconomic" pits was on the agenda.

Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the coal board, said last night: "I am ready at any time to meet people to discuss constructive views to settle the dispute. If Mr Scargill has something constructive to say, I will be ready to see him on Sunday."

The swift response of Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the union, was "I think Mr MacGregor needs a long rest."

The union's general secretary Mr Peter Heathfield, added: "They are playing ducks and drakes with us."

Mr MacGregor went further in a BBC interview when told that the miners' president was accusing the coal board of sniggering the talks. "That would be normal for Mr Scargill," he said. "He lies through his teeth."

The latest development in the

six-month-old dispute came at the end of a long day of charges and counter-charges of duplicity, and the on-off talks saga degenerated into farce.

The break in the seven-week-old negotiating deadlock, arranged over the weekend by the Fleet Street publisher, Mr Robert Maxwell, failed even before it got off the ground.

The discussions were first due to take place at a Gatwick hotel tonight, but were postponed until tomorrow and then put off indefinitely, after a series of telephone conversations between top-level coal board officials and the union, whose leaders are attending the Trades Union Congress in Brighton.

In a fresh outbreak of personal hostility between the two men, Mr Scargill accused Mr MacGregor of discussing the likely prospects of peace talks several hours after his industrial relations director, Mr Ned Smith, had already told the union that the conditions for meaningful negotiations did not exist.

The uncertainty about the position of the two sides appears to have stemmed from the failure of communication which allowed both the miners and the coal board to believe that the other was ready to shift from its hard-line bargaining position.

But despite contacts between the third-party intermediaries and the Secretary for State for Energy, Mr Peter Walker, it became clear that nothing had changed.

The miners are still insisting on withdrawal of the March 6 colliery closure programme and an agreement that all existing mines be kept open, while the board is adamant that loss-making pits must close when their "beneficial" reserves are exhausted.

Mr Scargill told an impromptu press conference in the lobby of the congress centre: "When MacGregor appeared on television, the decision not to talk had already been indicated to our general secretary, though I did not hear of it until he was able to contact me."

He claimed that political pressure from the Government had been brought to bear to ensure that the latest peace moves did not succeed, and a number of top-level officials of the NUM are now privately convinced that there can be no settlement of the dispute before the Conservative Party conference in six weeks' time.

Continued on back page, col 2

Recall of Parliament ruled out

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister yesterday insisted that nothing had changed in the pit dispute, that it could be quickly settled if the National Union of Mineworkers was prepared to accept long-standing principles and procedures for the closure of uneconomic pits.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, rejecting Labour's request for a recall of Parliament, told Mr Neil Kinnock that the Commons had already debated the industrial situation, on July 31.

"During that debate," she said, "I pointed out that over many years pits which are not totally exhausted have been closed when it is no longer economic to mine them: the Labour Government not only acted on this principle but also embodied it in legislation."

"Since the debate, the point at issue has not changed. Nor has the National Coal Board offer to the miners."

The ballot of members of the NUM which was held in April 12 has not occurred. Violence and intimidation by some union members against their colleagues continue in an effort to prevent them from working, nevertheless, those who wish to go to their place of work are able, thanks to the police, to do so."

Earlier, Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, said that it was a "total lie" for Mr Arthur Scargill to say that peace talks had been called off by the coal board.

In a considered denunciation on BBC radio Mr Walker said that Mr Scargill's statement was an "invention, a dream, a work of fiction, an incredible device designed to cover up the fact that the NUM president had decided that he would not negotiate the central issue of the dispute, the closure of uneconomic pits."

Mr Walker said on the World at One programme: "Over this six months of dispute I have had to listen to and read many words of total fiction from Mr Scargill. But none of those words of fiction has surpassed what he has come out with this morning."

"It came as a total surprise to the coal board and to the government when Mr Scargill announced that the talks had been called off."

Meanwhile, Mr Stanley Orme, Labour energy spokesman, has been making behind-the-scenes efforts to pave the way for new talks. He said yesterday: "It is very, very difficult. I have been in touch with both sides and I have put some proposals, but all that is confidential."

'Tiny few' attacked for picket violence

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, yesterday used his first full-dress appearance before the trade union movement, to support the striking miners, but he condemned the "tiny, tiny few" responsible for violence on the picket lines.

Addressing a TUC conference largely overshadowed by the pit strike, he told union delegates that a Labour government would never have allowed the country to get into such a state of decay and turmoil, and he reiterated the Shadow Cabinet's demand for a recall of Parliament to discuss the industrial crisis.

Mr Kinnock argued that the basic cause of the dispute in the mining industry is unemployment. "In every colliery in Britain, many unemployment rates are in excess of 15 per cent, and in some areas as high as 25 or 30 per cent."

"For the people of those communities, pit closures would leave them with absolutely nowhere to go. They have reached sticking point, that point where deference turns into resistance. That is why in the collieries men and women have decided to turn and resist."

"For them, there is no refuge in redundancy pay when there are no jobs to go to. There are

Mr Kinnock yesterday: "Unemployment to blame" would leave them with absolutely nowhere to go. They have reached sticking point, that point where deference turns into resistance. That is why in the collieries men and women have decided to turn and resist.

Continued on back page, col 5

TUC council moves to the left

From David Felton, Labour Correspondent, Brighton

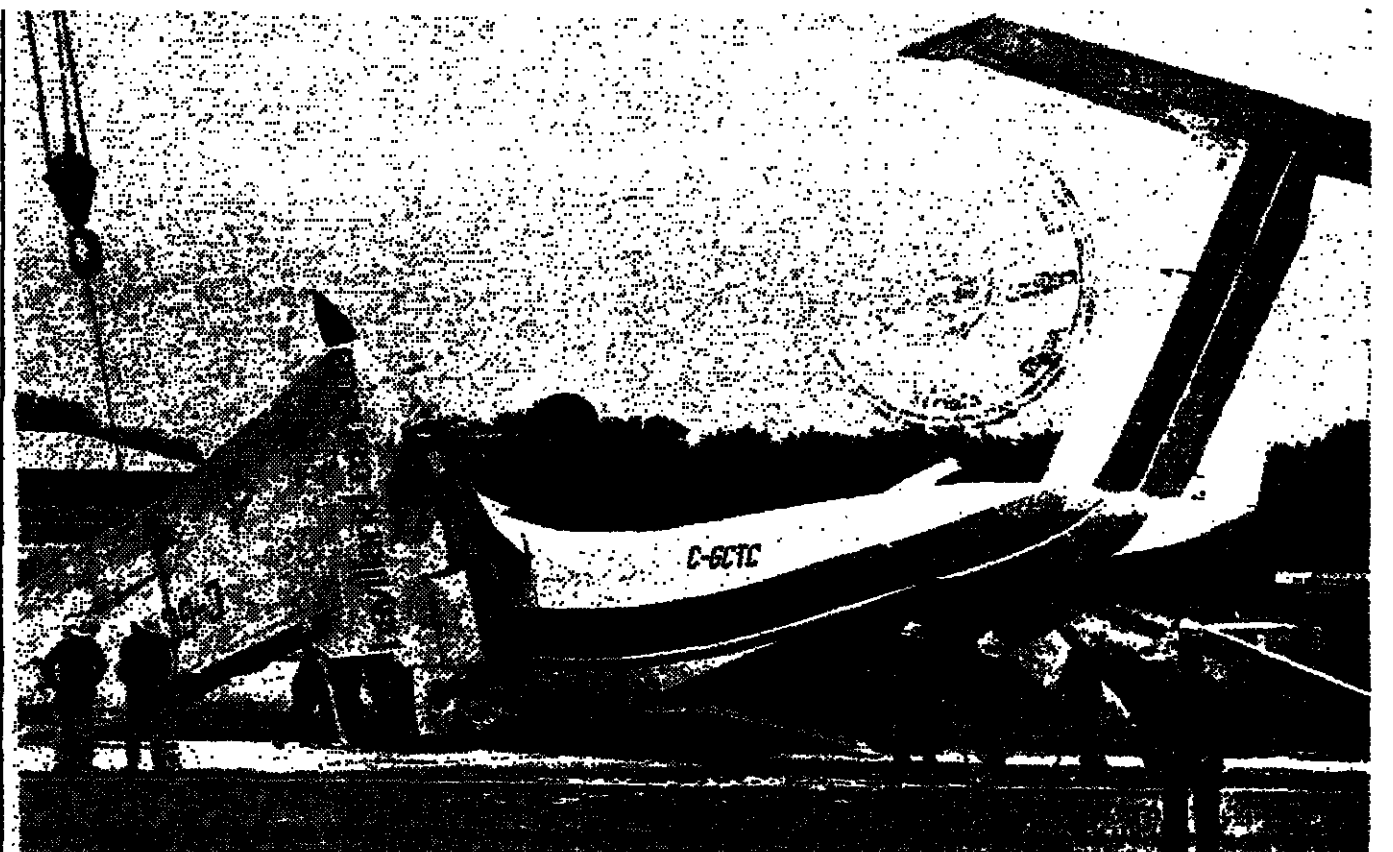
In elections in the section for smaller unions, two of the Left's most vociferous supporters, Mr Ken Cameron of the firemen's union and Mr Alan Sapper of the cine technicians, lost their seats as did Mr Bob Garland, a right-winger, of the foundation section of the Engineering Union.

Their seats went to three right-wingers, Mr Bill McCall of the professional civil servants, Mr David Lambert, of the busworkers union and Mr Rob Stevenson, the leader of the furniture workers.

Mr Cameron said after the election results that the new general council did not reflect the broad spread of membership: "It amazes me that we can have decisions like yesterday's miners' vote and people like Bill Sims and John Lyons being booted by a majority of delegates and then being put back into the general council."

The Left's gains came mainly from the mandates given to the towns hall union. Nalgo's four representatives by their left-wing annual conference earlier this year and the replacement of right-wing Mr Alfistair Graham of the Civil Service union CPUSA by a communist, Mr Ray Alderson.

Mr Willis, the current TUC deputy-general secretary, will take over from Mr Murray when congress ends on Friday. He defeated his rival, Mr David Lea, by 7,362,000 votes to 2,678,000.



The snapped wings and burnt wreckage of the de Havilland Buffalo transport (Photograph: Roger Allen).

Crew unhurt after air show crash

By Edward Townsend

The pilot, co-pilot, and third crew member of a de Havilland Buffalo transport aircraft escaped with only minor injuries yesterday when the plane crashed in a sheet of flame on the main runway during the Farnborough air display.

A de Havilland company spokesman said that Captain Bill Lovedseed, Mr Brad Fowler, the co-pilot, and Mr Eric Greyn, were "shaken" and had been taken to a nearby hospital for checks.

However, at the last second, the Buffalo appeared to hit the tarmac heavily, bursting into flames and coming to a halt within about 200 yards.

The Society of British Aerospace Companies said that a board of inquiry would be set up immediately and appealed to onlookers who had taken photographs to hand in as evidence.

Thousands of trade visitors watched the short take-off and landing aircraft disintegrate within yards of the spectators' safety fence. Pieces of debris from the aircraft were believed to have been catapulted into the static air display area but no injuries were reported.

Weather conditions at the time of the crash were good, he said, but there were some wind gusts reported in the area.

The airplane, which can carry a payload of 10 tons, crashed when ending its flying display with a tight, steep turn on to the runway to demonstrate its prowess on difficult and inaccessible airfields.

He said Captain Lovedseed, a former Red Arrows squadron leader, had had vast experience with the twin-engine Buffalo at many international air shows, including Farnborough.

Reagan pledge on arms accord

From Nicholas Ashford, Salt Lake City

President Reagan yesterday pledged his determination to work towards balanced and verifiable arms reduction agreements with the Soviet Union if he is re-elected in November.

Addressing the sixty-sixth national convention of the American Legion the President also emphasized the need to continue the massive arms build-up which he initiated when he took office three and a half years ago.

To loud cheers from the 15,000 legionnaires who packed the Salt Lake City convention centre to hear the President make one of the main speeches of his reelection campaign, he declared: "We must complete the task of military modernization and improve readiness. This is directly related to the prospect for arms reductions. In the past, we have succeeded best when we have bargained from strength."

He added that arms reduction treaties with the Soviet Union would be made "all the more feasible by maintaining our resolve to keep our defences strong."

The President's address contained no new proposals for getting the stalled medium and long-range missile talks going again. On the other hand, his address did not contain any anti-soviet rhetoric which characterized his earlier addresses to this and other similar gatherings during the earlier phase of his Administration.

The President emphasized the need to maintain America's traditional alliances. "Our interests and NATO's are complementary. Their strength helps us and vice-versa."

Democrats' smiles, page 7

3,300 jobs in danger at Acrow

By Jeremy Warner

Acrow, one of Britain's best known engineering companies, called in the receivers yesterday after a five-year struggle to stave off the effects of persistent heavy losses. The decision leaves more than 3,300 workers, facing an uncertain future.

More than half these jobs are with Coles Cranes at Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, and at Grantham, Lincolnshire.

Acrow also employs 540 in various businesses in the Stockport area of Cheshire and 580 at Saffron Walden, Essex. Another 338 are employed at its Prestun Brothers excavator subsidiary at Hull. There are further subsidiaries at Harefield, Middlesex, and Maldon, Essex.

The Acrow directors asked Barclays Bank to appoint receivers when it became apparent that the group - which lost £14m last year - will continue to suffer heavy losses. Barclays is one of 16 British and overseas banks collectively owed about £50m by Acrow. In addition, the group owes £22m to other creditors. A large number of trade creditors is not expected to get its money back.

Teachers angry over split decision 5.1% pay award

By Colin Hughes

Arbitrators have awarded school teachers a 5.1 per cent pay increase back-dated to April 1, only 0.6 per cent above the employer's final offer. The award brings the average teacher's salary up from £9,720 to £10,200 a year.

Teachers' union leaders reacted with dismay, saying the award was a "split decision" which was finally decided on the casting vote of Professor Eric Armstrong, the panel's independent chairman, and Emeritus professor at Manchester Business School, Dr John Hughes, principal of Ruskin College, Oxford, and the teachers' nominee, voted against the 5.1 per cent supported by the other panel member, Mr Robert Ramsey, a former head in Ford UK's industrial relations department.

Mr Doug McAvoy, deputy general secretary of the 235,000-member National Union of Teachers, said: "Teachers will be appalled that the chairman has been swayed predominantly by the employer's arguments on cash limits and ability to pay."

"This is the first time in the history of teacher's pay that an arbitration panel has been unable to agree an award. Teachers will therefore have to accept an award which totally fails to arrest the decline in teachers' pay, let alone pay any regard to the restoration of salary levels."

The teacher's panel had put in a claim for 31 per cent to restore salaries to 1974 comparable levels. They pursued eight weeks of strike action and disruptive sanctions in schools to win arbitration, and were hoping for around 7.5 per cent.

Mr Fred Smithies, general secretary of the 130,000-member National Association of Schoolteachers/Union of Women Teachers, said: "It's disappointing, but it is at least better than the employer's final offer."

"I think we are bound to face calls for indefinite industrial action, such as withdrawing goodwill, as of now. It certainly bodes ill for next year's pay round."

The arbitration panel for further education lecturers simultaneously awarded them 4.5 per cent, the same increase accepted by Scottish teachers last Easter, but lecturers on the lowest grade will get an additional £330 a year.

Honecker gives in to Moscow

From Michael Biayon, Bonn

In the wake of mounting pressure from Moscow, East Germany yesterday called off the proposed four-day visit by Herr Erich Honecker, the party leader, to West Germany this month, accusing West German politicians of engaging in "unseemly" public controversy over the trip.

Herr Ewald Moldt, head of the East German mission in Bonn, told the Chancellor's office yesterday that the date for the visit, due to begin on September 26, was no longer "realistic". He did not suggest a later date.

The Bonn Government issued a statement regretting the postponement but rejecting the pressure from Moscow.

Bonn (Reuter) - President Chernenko, out of sight for more than seven weeks and thought by Western diplomats to be seriously ill, will appear in public tomorrow in a ceremony to honour Soviet cosmonauts, Victor Louis, a well-connected Moscow journalist, was quoted as saying yesterday.

reasons for it. Chancellor Helmut Kohl said Herr Honecker was still welcome in West Germany.

The visit developed into an international issue after the Russians mounted a virulent campaign against West Germany six weeks ago.

A row quickly broke out in Bonn over Government handling of the visit. Herr Willy Brandt, chairman of the Social Democratic Opposition who made the first visit as Chancellor to East Germany in 1970, blamed the "garrulous dilettantism" and opposition to the visit in the Christian Democratic Party for the postponement.

Victory for hardliners, page 6

It seems there are only two builders to choose from these days.

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Air show orders for Marconi and BAe

British Aerospace said at the Farnborough Air Show yesterday that it had won £6m worth of orders for three of its Jetstream 31 light turbo-prop transport aircraft.

One has been ordered by Sweden and the other two are for United States and British Corporations.

● Marconi announced its second export sale in a week of the new British torpedo, Sting Ray.

Last week it sold Sting Ray to Thailand, and a sale to Egypt has now been agreed. Marconi put the value of the two deals at £20m.

● Scottish Expedition Airways announced an £8m order for two Swedish 35-seat commuter airlines, the Saab-Fairchild 340 twin turbo-prop.

The Hammer, the first high technology competitor to the US Army Jeep, has been produced by the Texas-based LTV Aerospace and Defence Company. It has 15 versions and is bigger than a Jeep.

Fighter bid, page 4

Dismissal of gamekeeper fair

A gamekeeper whose love life in a tied cottage embarrassed his employer was fairly dismissed, an industrial tribunal decided yesterday.

The tribunal, sitting in Brighton, heard last month that Mr Michael Mann, aged 28, was dismissed by Lord Benson, aged 75, a former adviser to the Bank of England, who has a shoot on an estate at Singleton, near Chichester, West Sussex.

Lord Benson said his shooting friends were embarrassed by Mr Mann who lived at his tied gamekeeper's cottage at Singleton with two wives and two mistresses in five years.

In its ruling yesterday, the tribunal said it found it difficult to think that Lord Benson could have acted in any other way than to dismiss his gamekeeper.

Greenham camp eviction sought

The Department of Transport is to seek a possession order on the land occupied by about thirty women peace protesters outside the main gate of the Greenham Common cruise missile base in Berkshire in the High Court on September 12.

The date was announced last night on the eve of the third anniversary of the establishment of the original camp there in 1981.

Raiders play at cat and mouse

Two pairs of burglars trying to raid a rugby club thought the other were policemen until they realized they had a common purpose.

At Gloucester Magistrates' Court two of the men were remanded on bail. Stephen Large, aged 21, of Hartland Road, and Peter Robins, aged 19, of Arden House, Poddmead, both Gloucester, admitted attempted burglary at Widdow Old Boys' Rugby Club, Gloucester.

Safety campaign on motorways

A big campaign to combat "motorway madness" on the southern sections of the M1 and M6 is to be launched tomorrow by Northamptonshire police and five neighbouring forces.

About a hundred police will be deployed between London and Coventry and displays will be mounted at service areas in an effort to reduce the 515 accidents that caused death and injury last year, one of the worst records on Britain's motorways.

Offer rejected

A meeting of 2,000 British Aerospace manual workers at the Filton aircraft factory in Bristol yesterday rejected a pay offer worth up to £250 next year. They have been on strike for five weeks.

Prior takes his final curtain

By Richard Ford

Mr James Prior left Northern Ireland yesterday for the last time as Secretary of State, after a 15-week farewell performance in which speculation has steadily mounted about his successor and his own future.

Mr Prior's departure from one of the toughest jobs in politics has been likened to that of an ageing star making curtain call after a long career in Belfast, Dublin, and in the Commons before retiring to the wings. Only a crisis in the province will bring Mr Prior back to Stormont before the limited Cabinet reshuffle which the Prime Minister is expected to announce within a matter of days.

Mr Prior left the province as he found it on his reluctant arrival almost three years ago with a hunger strike in progress. In 1981 it was republicans who were fasting, now six "loyalist" prisoners are going without food in an attempt to force the government to grant segregation of inmates at Magillan jail in Co Londonderry.

At Stormont, Mr Prior met a delegation representing bus drivers in the province who expressed their concern at growing attacks on them before

Dairy farmers rush to claim special treatment

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

More than 20,000 dairy farmers, nearly half the total number in England and Wales, have applied for treatment as special cases under the EEC milk quota scheme introduced earlier this year.

The avalanche of applications has astonished and dismayed the Ministry of Agriculture, which had hoped to have dealt with hardship cases and to have issued revised individual allocations by the end of this month.

To meet its target, it would now have to process some 1,000 applications a day, which is clearly out of the question. Even the National Farmers' Union, which encouraged its members to look for every possible loophole, admits that the figure has exceeded its highest estimate.

The grounds for claiming special treatment have been deliberately tightly defined, and do not admit the argument that a farmer has not economically viable alternative to dairying.

Under the scheme he is required to reduce his production by 9 per cent, or pay a penalty on the excess, unless he can show that his 1983 output was abnormally low because of serious natural disaster: the accidental destruction of cattle buildings or fodder storage; an epidemic disease (frequently necessitating the isolation or slaughter of infected animals); loss of farmland by compulsory purchase; prolonged incineration of the farmer or his family because of illness; loss of all or part of the herd.

Asked yesterday whether it was not stretching credulity to suggest that half Britain's dairy farmers had suffered one or two

more such calamity last year, a ministry official replied: "That's your phrase, not mine."

There is some relief for the ministry in the fact that about 4,350 farmers have indicated that they are prepared to give up dairying under the so-called "outriggers" scheme. Their combined production amounts to 6.5 per cent of the total national quota, against an expectation of only 2.25 per cent.

That would allow greater flexibility in allocating additional quotas to small farmers and to "hardship" applicants who were already committed to expansion schemes when the quota arrangements were announced.

The complexities of administering the scheme have been underlined by a dispute over the sale and leasing of quotas.

The official position is that quotas are allocated to farms, and not to farmers, and are thus transferred with the sale of land. The NFU has objected to that because it imposes unfair restrictions on tenant farmers, who have to seek their landlords' consent if they wish to switch from dairying.

The Farmers' Union of Wales has expressed concern about the leasing of quotas, whereby producers exchange allocations accompanied by only nominal sales and purchases of land. One farmer is said to have offered an acre and a half of land for sale for £25,000, including a milk quota of nearly 500,000 litres.

The ministry said yesterday that, while it wanted to see as much flexibility as possible, that sort of arrangement was clearly against the intentions of the scheme and would meet with strong disapproval in Brussels.

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Suitably pleased: The Olympic champion Sebastian Coe (centre) Mr David Hicks, director of David Hicks International Designers (left), and the BBC Nine O'Clock News presenter John Humphrys hold their awards after being named Best Dressed Men of 1984 by the Menswear Association of Britain in a ceremony at the Savoy Hotel, yesterday. Coe wearing a brown suit and purple tie, said: "I am rarely out of a track suit, jeans, or T-shirt. I was once described as looking like the straggler from a Jarrold hunger march" (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

The miners' strike

'Damage squad' arrests 15

By Craig Seton

Fifteen striking miners were being questioned by Derbyshire police last night about attacks on the homes and property of working miners. They were arrested on a country road by detectives from a squad set up to investigate intimidation in the coalfield.

The men were travelling in a van early yesterday when they were stopped on the road between Grassmoor and Tupton, two mining villages near Chesterfield, in an area where there have been scores of allegations of intimidation of working miners and their families.

The men, believed to be from Derbyshire, were held by officers from the county's "damage" squads which have been investigating hundreds of thousands of pounds of damage to the homes and cars of working miners and national Coal Board property.

It was understood last night the men had been under surveillance for some time.

More miners report for work

By Glen Allan

The drift back to work by striking miners which began on Monday continued yesterday. Miners in North Derbyshire, North Wales, Staffordshire, Lancashire and Cumbria joined the back-to-work trend started earlier this week by men in Scotland, the North-east and Kent.

National Coal Board officials in some areas nevertheless expressed disappointment about the number of men going back. A headquarters spokesman, speaking before news of the breakdown in proposed talks, said: "We believe that the miners early this morning scented a peace deal in the offing and are therefore in no

rush to break the strike. But there is a definite back-to-work trend and a general lightening of picketing, although there was some trouble in Kent, where there were 10 arrests."

The return to work was strongest in the board's western area of North Wales, Lancashire, Staffordshire and Cumbria, where a total of 4,500 miners turned up for duty.

In North Derbyshire, 855 men reported for work, an increase of 45, and in Scotland, a record number of 209 reported in, an increase of four.

The number of men returning area by area: Yorkshire yesterday had 33 men in the area reporting for work, the same number as on Monday; North Yorkshire had 13 men reporting for duty, as well as 60 contractors working at Selby, the same as Monday; Barnsley reported no men back at work, and in Doncaster nine men turned out, the same number as on Monday; in the north-east, 20 men were at work, an increase of four, and in Kent 24 men turned up, an increase of one; in South Nottinghamshire, Leicester, and South Derbyshire all pits were working normally, and in Warwickshire all pits but one were operating normally. In South Wales, there are no pits working.

Leading article, Letters, page 13

Liberals to debate spying

The question of bringing the intelligence services under parliamentary scrutiny is to be debated at the Liberal Party's annual assembly in Bournemouth later this month.

Mr Alan Beith, the Liberal Chief Whip, said yesterday that it was significant that the Liberals would be the first political party to have such a debate. The left had no time for the intelligence services, while the right took the view that no questions should be asked about what the intelligence services were doing.

That was an equally foolish attitude, Mr Beith said, because it led to incompetence and to lack of proper ministerial direction of the services.

The motion for debate urges the Parliamentary Liberal Party to back through the convention of not discussing the

miners' dispute, of which the terms will be decided at the last moment. But the most urgent question at Bournemouth is the resolution of differences over defence policy.

● Changes to the married man's tax allowance to provide extra funds for social security spending were given partial backing by the Liberal Party yesterday in its evidence to the Government's social security reviews (our Social Services Correspondent writes).

The present position, in which two adults have tax allowances of £5,160 if they are married and the wife works, £4,010 if they are not married, and £3,155 if they are married and the wife does not work, is "indefensible and should be brought to an end", the party said.

The Liberals plan to hold an emergency debate on the

Scarman finds race tension still in Brixton

By Pat Healy

Race Relations Correspondent

The social tensions which led to the Brixton riots in London three years ago still remain and may have worsened, according to Lord Scarman. Young blacks still suffer racial disadvantage and would quarrel with the idea that things had improved since Lord Scarman's public inquiry into the riots.

He makes these points in a film, "Scarman returns", to be broadcast on Channel Four on Sunday. It chronicles a visit to Brixton to discover what, if any, changes have occurred.

Lord Scarman concludes in the film that young blacks are troubled by the belief that they are less equal when competing with whites for jobs.

"This induces in young black people a hopelessness which could become alienation - exactly the situation which lay behind the Brixton riots. There is, therefore, no ground for complacency."

However, he says a big step forward has been made as the local community and police now co-operate in maintaining peace on the streets.

"Everyone in our society, irrespective of colour or race, has got to appreciate that we have to sell the British way of life to young black people who have that sense of hopelessness."

The willingness of the local council and the Government to help has not overcome "the terrible frustration of unemployment" which have troubled the three years since the riots.

But, unlike young blacks in the film who see the Youth Training Scheme as a way of keeping unemployment statistics down, Lord Scarman believes there is hope. Young blacks have to be persuaded that they have a dignified, energetic, and exciting role in our multi-racial society.

Second runway for Gatwick 'needed'

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

resulting from deregulation.

The trend towards more frequent flights by smaller aircraft is expected to follow at Gatwick. It is already being seen at Heathrow.

"Gatwick must choose between a second runway or failing to reach its projected growth target", a senior figure in the Civil Aviation Authority said yesterday.

But Mr Norman Payne, chairman of the British Airports Authority, said: "We are talking about passenger levels for the 1990s which are very difficult to predict. A second runway would be against government policy and against a BAA agreement with the planning authorities in 1979 not to build a second runway within 40 years."

A new control tower opened by Princess Michael of Kent yesterday will relieve Gatwick's great air traffic pressures without curbing the long-term problem.

But instead of the projected growth of 3½ per cent a year in aircraft size, the trend has already been reversed in the United States, with a 5 per cent reduction in passengers per aircraft in New York last year as a result of fierce competition

Ethics code call for civil servants

By David Walker

Social Policy Correspondent

The hard line recently taken by the Government over Civil Service leaks has spurred the First Division Association, representing officials in senior grades, to float the idea of a code of ethics for civil servants akin to those for lawyers and doctors.

Such a code might in certain circumstances justify the unauthorized release of official information. Mr Clive Ponting, the Ministry of Defence official accused of leaks related to the naval war in the Falklands, who is a member of the association, has said a civil servant's loyalty extended to the public and Parliament as well as to the ministers of a particular government.

The cases of Mr Ponting and Miss Sarah Tisdall, the Foreign Office clerk convicted under the Official Secrets Act earlier this year, appear to have caused much heart searching among officials.

Only last autumn a survey of civil servants conducted on behalf of the Royal Institute of Public Administration showed few who thought they ever faced ethical dilemmas.

Now the First Division Association has decided to consult its members on the need for a code of conduct and to draw up specimen documents.

The association's inquiry will be led by Mr Alan Healey, a social security administrator.

Nigerians deny crate escape

The Nigerians have denied that Group Captain Bernard Banfa, the managing director of Nigeria Airways, who was wanted for questioning in connection with the kidnapping in July of Alhaji Umaru Dikko, the former Nigerian Transport Minister, escaped from Britain in a crate marked as diplomatic baggage.

Miss Smith-Hughes said: "All of these would have taken the expenses over the £4,800 limit by £200 to £300."

The Times overseas selling prices: 60p (UK), 65p (USA), 70p (Canada), 75p (Australia), 80p (New Zealand), 85p (South Africa), 90p (India), 95p (Japan), 100p (Hong Kong), 105p (Singapore), 110p (Malaysia), 115p (Thailand), 120p (Philippines), 125p (Indonesia), 130p (Brunei), 135p (Vietnam), 140p (Cambodia), 145p (Laos), 150p (Myanmar), 155p (Burma), 160p (Sri Lanka), 165p (Bangladesh), 170p (Pakistan), 175p (Afghanistan), 180p (Iran), 185p (Iraq), 190p (Kuwait), 195p (Saudi Arabia), 200p (Yemen), 205p (Oman), 210p (UAE), 215p (Qatar), 220p (Bahrain), 225p (Jordan), 230p (Lebanon), 235p (Syria), 240p (Israel), 245p (Cyprus), 250p (Greece), 255p (Turkey), 260p (Greece), 265p (Italy), 270p (France), 275p (Germany), 280p (Netherlands), 285p (Belgium), 290p (Luxembourg), 295p (Switzerland), 300p (Austria), 305p (Spain), 310p (Portugal), 315p (Ireland), 320p (UK), 325p (Ireland), 330p (UK), 335p (Ireland), 340p (UK), 345p (Ireland), 350p (UK), 355p (Ireland), 360p (UK), 365p (Ireland), 370p 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'Wedding knifeman killed mother, father and son before raping daughter'

Wedding day celebrations for the daughter of a solicitor, Mr Basil Laitner, ended in appalling bloodshed when he, his wife, and his son were killed to death and the bride's younger sister repeatedly raped, Durham Crown Court was told yesterday.

Nichola Laitner, aged 18, was forced to walk through her father's blood at knifepoint before being raped in a garden marquee, where the celebrations had taken place, the court was told.

Yesterday, Arthur Hutchinson, aged 43, appeared before a jury of six men and six women, accused of murdering Mr Laitner, aged 59, his wife Avril, aged 55, a doctor, and their son Richard, aged 28, at their home in Dore, Sheffield, between October 22 and 25 last year. He was also accused of unlawful sexual intercourse with Miss Laitner and with aggravated burglary. He denies all charges.

Mr Robin Stewart, QC, for the prosecution, said that the "act of violence" came after the Laitner family, leading members of the Jewish community in Sheffield, celebrated the wedding of their eldest daughter, Suzanne, aged 26, to an optician, Mr Ivor Woolfe.

"It started as a supremely happy day and it should have ended as that. But it ended in the most appalling and macabre tragedy with the murder of the

From Peter Davenport, Durham

Laitner parents, their son and the holding of their daughter Nichola at knifepoint, while she was raped and killed repeatedly.

The attacker eventually left her tied up to face the reality that she was the only one to survive the slaughter.

Mr Stewart said it was probably early on October 24, the day after the wedding, that the killer broke in.

Mr Richard Laitner, was stabbed in his bed, his father knifed on the stairs as he investigated a noise, and Mrs Laitner killed as she fought her attacker barehanded. After that the attacker burst into Miss Laitner's bedroom and told her that if she screamed she would be dead.

The man responsible, he said, was Mr Hutchinson who boasted of the killings to Miss Laitner, said he denied having been in the house but was linked to the killings by evidence from Miss Laitner and forensic science details.

Mr Stewart said that her attacker was bloodstained. Blood stains on the collar of her nightdress were from the same

group as her mother who was killed in the longest and most bloody of the struggles.

Blood from Mr Laitner was found on the hem of his daughter's nightdress and her foot.

Mr Stewart said that triangular-shaped blood stains were found on her bed, as if made by a person moving his wounded knee during sexual intercourse. Hutchinson, he said, had been treated in hospital for a knee wound sustained during his escape from police custody while awaiting trial for offences committed before the murders.

The blood was from a rare group shared by one person in 50,000 in Britain the same group as Mr Hutchinson's.

Mr Stewart also said that Miss Laitner helped artist to produce a sketch of her attacker, which bore an uncanny likeness to Mr Hutchinson as he then appeared, although, the court was told, he used to change his name and appearance.

Forensic scientists found two of Mr Hutchinson's palm prints on a bottle of Champagne in the marquee and teeth marks in a wedge of cheese in a refrigerator in the house were found to match his, Mr Stewart said.

Mr Hutchinson, from Kelso Grove, Huddersfield, escaped from custody on September 28 and, using the name Patrick O'Reardon, was treated for a wounded leg at Doncaster Royal Infirmary, the court was told.

He told Miss Laitner that while on the run he had lived "like a fox" and after the murders registered at a boarding house under the name of A. Fox.

It was, Mr Stewart said, "a macabre sense of humour".

Mr Justice McNeill, had lifted reporting restrictions covering anonymity for a rape victim and the accused.

The killings took place, Mr Stewart said, after the 200 guests had left. Mr Laitner, his



Fated family: Mr Basil Laitner, (left), with his daughters, Nichola and Suzanne, his son, Richard, and his wife, Avril, photographed at Suzanne's wedding.

wife and son went to a relative's home for dinner about 9pm, returning at 11.15pm. Nichola Laitner had stayed behind.

Mr Stewart said that Mr Hutchinson, who may have spied on Miss Laitner as she danced at the reception, entered Richard Laitner's first-floor bedroom after seeing a bridesmaid's dress hanging inside. It could have been that he was looking for a girl to rape.

Instead, to his horror, he found Richard Laitner, who was dispatched to his death with two major stab wounds to his chest.

Mr Hutchinson killed Mr Basil Laitner with two stab wounds to the neck and back, Mr Stewart said.

He then went downstairs where Mrs Laitner was awake in her bed and viciously attacked her. "There were 26 marks of violence on her body", Mr Stewart said.

Upstairs, Nichola Laitner heard the noises and was

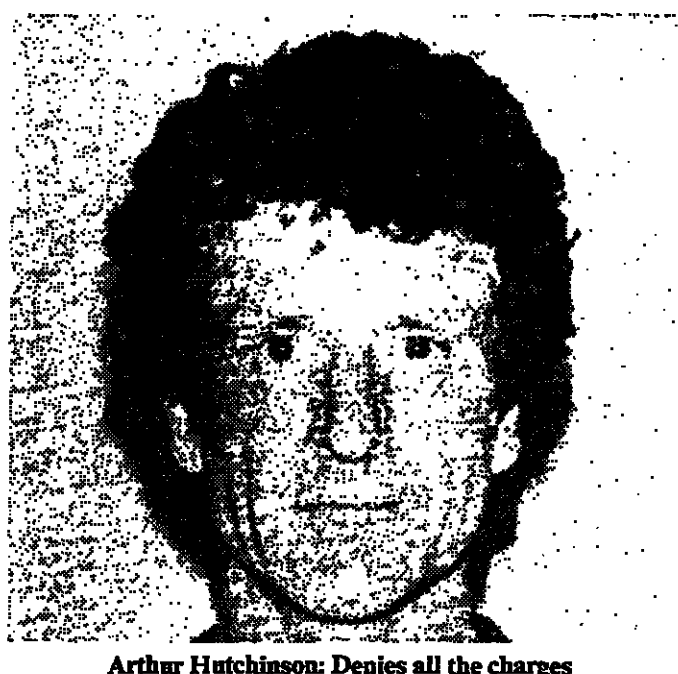
frightened to leave her room. When Mr Hutchinson burst in, Mr Stewart said, he ordered her to switch on the light before forcing her to submit sexually.

Mr Hutchinson then handcuffed the girl and led her to the marquee where he again raped her, saying: "You have got to enjoy it or I will kill you. That's where your mum went wrong. She created a fuss, so I had to kill her."

As dawn approached she complained of feeling cold and was led back to the bedroom, where she was raped. Before Mr Hutchinson left the house he tied her hand and foot with two of her dead brother's ties. She was discovered, hysterical, by two workmen who arrived to dismantle the marquee.

Throughout Miss Laitner's ordeal in the marquee - she was pleading all the time for her life - Mr Hutchinson had kept the knife used to kill her family stuck in the ground by her head.

The hearing continues today.



Arthur Hutchinson: Denies all the charges

Hopes fade for early mortgage rate cut

By Peter Wilson-Smith
A cut in mortgage rates could be delayed until after Christmas because of difficulties building societies are having in attracting funds to meet mortgage demand.

Figures for August due out next week are likely to show that societies had their worst month for attracting savings for nearly three years.

Provisional estimates show that net receipts from the public were less than £100m last month, the lowest since November 1981. By contrast, mortgage demand remains strong with lending last month put at more than £2,000m.

Societies are pinning much of the blame for their present difficulties on attractive rates being paid by the Government on National Savings. The twenty-eighth issue of National Savings certificates has brought in almost £750m and the net inflow into National Savings last month is estimated at up to £600m.

Societies are ruling out a cut at their monthly Building Societies' Association council meeting next week.

Prices of 3D cameras likely to be reduced

Nimslo International, which has made a loss for two years after the launch of its three-dimensional camera, is expected to reduce prices of its amateur market cameras at the end of this month. At present they sell at between £70 and £90 (Or Commercial Editor writes).

The company also wants to bring down the cost of processing film. Mr Jerry Nims, Nimslo's founder who, with Mr Alan Lo, developed the 3D camera in the 1970s, resigned the chairmanship of the company at the weekend. Mr James Davidson has taken over.

Restrictions 'unjust'

Mr Michael Corner, editor of *The Star*, Sheffield, explained yesterday why his sister paper, the *Morning Telegraph*, applied for reporting restrictions, which normally apply in cases involving rape, to be lifted.

The restrictions, under which the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act, prevent the reporting of identities of victim

and accused. The accused's name may be used only after conviction.

Mr Corner said: "According to the letter of the law the case would have been virtually unreportable and with such a wide public interest in the case that was clearly wrong."

"It will mean some distress for the Laitner family and for that we are sorry."

Intoximeter poser for Whitelaw

Lord Whitelaw, the former Home Secretary, had been asked to appear in court to give evidence on the Intoximeter, the controversial electronic breath-testing machine.

The invitation came last week from Sierzant & Company solicitors, of Chorley Lancashire, and if it is not taken up, the firm will apply for a summons requiring him to appear as a witness.

Mr Barry Pamplin, clerk at the firm did not expect Lord Whitelaw to appear in person, but hoped that a summons on him would persuade the Home Office to put forward an expert witness.

Mr Pamplin argues that the Intoximeter, in use in 600 police stations, has undergone so many modifications that it is no longer the same machine.

He said yesterday there were up to 5,000 cases involving the Intoximeter which had been adjourned pending the detailed judgment of Lord Justice Stephen Brown, who ruled on July 19 that details of the past performance of Intoximeter machines were not admissible evidence.

Driver killed

Mr Jeffrey Campbell, aged 37, of Parkgate Way, Middlesbrough, Cheshire, was killed when his articulated lorry crashed through railings on a motorway bridge and plunged more than 40ft to the M56 near Runcorn.

Drug case boy's feet amputated

From Our Correspondent Oxford

A child whom doctors said would never walk after his mother took the drug Deben-dox during pregnancy, had his feet amputated yesterday so that he can be given artificial ones.

Luke Milligan, aged two and a half, was born without fibula bones in his calves. Doctors were surprised when he began to walk after about a year but his legs began to crumble so much that he faced life in a wheelchair unless he was fitted with artificial feet.

The operation was performed at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Oxford.

His father, Mr Bob Milligan, aged 40, of Pincocks-way, Oxford, said: "He has come through it all right, but he will have to be heavily sedated for a few days, because of the plaster on his legs."

Mrs Linda Milligan, aged 28, said: "They would have done it sooner if it had not been for me. I hoped that maybe it would not be necessary."

She said they realized the best way was to give him artificial ones so that he could lead a normal life.

After the operation, Luke will be in plaster for at least two weeks before being fitted with his new artificial limbs.

Mr Milligan said: "He's a very special boy. He has done everything the doctors said he never would and I think he will go on just the same. I am not sure whether he knows exactly

Former addict tells trial of 'big gun'

Miss Carol McLafferty, aged 20, told a multiple murder trial in Glasgow that she had seen one of the accused carrying a gun, but admitted to being a heroin user until last week and that that could have affected her memory of events.

Miss McLafferty, whose address was given as Easterhouse police station, was speaking at the High Court trial of Thomas Campbell, Thomas Gray, Joseph Steele, and Gary Moore, all from Glasgow, who are accused of murdering six members of a Glasgow family by setting fire to their home in Bankend Street, Ruchazie.

A total of seven men are facing charges ranging from attempted murder to assault and robbery. All the accused deny all charges.

Miss McLafferty claimed that she saw Steele carrying "a big gun" about two feet long, in the house of a friend, Miss Jane Russell, in the Garthamloch district.

She told the court that Steele and her boy friend of three months, Mr Gordon Mess, left the flat with the gun for about half an hour. When her boy friend returned he was "shocked looking".

When cross-examined by Mr Donald Findlay, for Mr Steele, Miss McLafferty admitted she was on heroin at the time.

She said she had told the police that she did not know very much at all because she was always full of drugs, but denied she had simply agreed to what they said under pressure. "They didn't try to make me

say these things. I admitted I knew them."

Those who died in the house fire were Mr Andrew Doyle, an ice-cream van driver, aged 18; Mr James Doyle, his father, aged 53; Mrs Christine Hallerton, Mr Doyle's daughter, aged 25; and her baby, aged 18 months; Anthony Doyle, aged 14; and James Doyle junior, aged 22.

Another witness, Mr James Lochart, aged 20, said yesterday that he had worked with Mr Andrew Doyle running an ice-cream van owned by Marchetti Brothers. He said he knew one of the accused, Thomas Lafferty, who had followed the van in which they were working one night last September.

Mr Lafferty had stopped in front of their van and ran back, warning them to keep away from their vehicle. Mr Lochart admitted that at times he and Mr Doyle stopped their van right next to the ice-cream van owned by Mrs Agnes Lafferty.

When Mrs Lafferty's van started working the Garthamloch area, Mr Doyle's van was put on as an extra. "It was to help the two other Marchetti vans and to make it difficult for Mrs Lafferty to make money", he said.

Miss Irene Mitchell, aged 18, said she worked for her father who had two vans hired from Marchetti. She said there was no trouble until October last year when Mrs Lafferty's van came into the area. Then another Marchetti van, driven by Andrew Doyle, was brought in "to keep an eye on us".

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Present Age		FOR A MONTHLY INVESTMENT OF £50				FOR A MONTHLY INVESTMENT OF £50			
		Guaranteed Sum Assured	Guaranteed Annual Reversion	Capital Bonus at 45%	Total Monetary Value	Guaranteed Sum Assured	Guaranteed Annual Reversion	Capital Bonus at 45%	Total Monetary Value
18-20	18-20	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
20	33	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
21	39	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
22	45	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
23	51	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
24	57	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
25	63	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
26	69	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
27	75	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
28	81	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
29	87	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
30	93	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
31	99	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
32	105	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
33	111	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
34	117	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
35	123	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
36	129	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
37	135	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
38	141	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
39	147	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
40	153	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
41	159	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
42	165	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
43	171	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
44	177	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
45	183	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
46	189	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
47	195	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
48	201	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
49	207	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
50	213	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
51	219	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
52	225	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
53	231	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
54	237	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
55	243	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
56	249	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
57	255	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
58	261	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
59	267	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
60	273	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
61	279	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
62	285	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
63	291	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
64	297	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
65	303	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
66	309	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
67	315	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
68	321	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
69	327	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
70	333	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
71	339	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
72	345	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
73	351	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
74	357	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
75	363	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
76	369	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
77	375	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
78	381	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
79	387	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
80	393	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
81	399	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
82	405	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
83	411	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
84	417	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
85	423	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
86	429	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
87	435	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
88	441	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
89	447	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
90	453	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
91	459	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
92	465	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
93	471	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
94	477	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
95	483	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
96	489	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
97	495	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
98	501	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
99	507	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
100	513	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
101	519	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
102	525	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
103	531	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
104	537	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
105	543	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
106	549	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
107	555	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
108	561	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
109	567	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
110	573	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
111	579	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
112	585	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
113	591	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
114	597	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
115	603	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
116	609	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
117	615	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
118	621	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
119	627	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
120	633	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
121	639	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
122	645	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
123	651	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
124	657	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
125	663	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
126	669	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
127	675	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
128	681	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
129	687	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
130	693	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
131	699	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
132	705	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
133	711	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
134	717	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
135	723	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
136	729	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
137	735	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
138	741	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
139	747	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,250
140	753	2,120	1,060	1,770	5,25				

TUC/BRIGHTON

Voting mix-up

Kinnock on violence

Pensions plea

Commentary

Violence an excuse for Thatcher to evade settlement, Kinnock says

Reports by John Winder, Derek Barnett and Stephen Goodwin

Mr Neil Kinnock, MP, leader of the Opposition, strongly condemned violence in the miners' dispute when he addressed the 116th annual congress of the TUC at the Brighton Conference Centre yesterday.

He outlined the case for coal and added "I say this to the congress and there is no better place for saying that it is a case which we win with reason."

"Our asset is the rationality of the case for coal. It is a case which is not to be put with violence. That is a fact which faces all of us in this movement because we are this movement."

Violence distracted attention from the central issue of the dispute and obscured the justice and validity of the miners' case. Violence has given the Government its only hope of escape to now on."

It had enabled it to evade its central responsibility for promoting settlement of the dispute and had provided it with a long-sought opportunity to introduce politically motivated changes in the legislation and methods of British policing until they had been shoved back into a period of conflict between police and public of 50 years ago.

Violence disguised trade union opinion and invited trade union attitudes. It created a climate of brutality and was alien to the temperance and intelligence of the British trade union movement.

"The violence of a tiny few provides another opportunity to our enemies, whose lurid imaginations are bigger than their intelligence to say this is evidence of the effort of trade unionism to take political power other than by parliamentary

democracy. That is rubbish. It is a terrible falsehood."

The congress and its affiliated unions, its leadership and rank and file, had demonstrated and asserted throughout history its belief that trade unionism was for changing conditions and that general elections, and only general elections, were for changing governments.

The movement had never in its history preached or practised any other creed and the congress never would. The Prime Minister had described trade unionists as the enemy within. It was the greatest slander by the Prime Minister against her fellow countrymen and countrywomen.

Trade unionists did not undermine the welfare of their country because it was their country and they had nowhere else to go and did not want to go anywhere else. They did not demand the destruction of the welfare state as the price of their confidence in Britain.

A government that wanted to treat British trade unionists as the enemy was a government at war with its own people. (Applause.)

They could see the battlefields in the devastated inner cities, the small towns paralysed by closures, in the wasted acres of housing estates where unemployment was as high as 30 per cent. They could see the hundreds, the wounded, looking into the eyes of the young and at the shoulders of the adult unemployed.

If anyone wanted to see intimidation they should see the enemy, whose lurid imaginations are bigger than their intelligence to say this is evidence of the effort of trade unionism to take political power other than by parliamentary

concern which they knew they had for intimidation. There was justification year in and year out for millions of fellow citizens in idleness, poverty and despair.

"That is what we have to overcome. We have to win power to change these conditions and win power to make good our pledge to the pensioners which we must fulfil in the name of decency and civilization."

They could not honour their pledges and offer hope without winning power.

Earlier Mr Kinnock said there was evidence that Mrs Thatcher regarded the miners' dispute not as a great problem or difficulty in the industrial situation but as a source of potential political profit.

She had cancelled her Far Eastern trip but they did not know what she intended to do with her extra week or two. Would she start to promote the resolution of the dispute, as any reasonably responsible British Prime Minister would be doing in fulfilment of her duty?

"Or will she start running true to form and do nothing to conciliate but everything possible to deepen and prolong the dispute?"

The Labour Party would continue its efforts to end the dispute, conscious that this dispute, like so many others, would at some time eventually have to be settled honourably, round the negotiating table.

It was the duty of the Government not to inflame, not to exacerbate, not to alienate but to seek to conciliate and promote negotiation to secure peace. The failure of the Government even to begin to demonstrate that would cost them very dear.



Mr Len Murray (left), outgoing general secretary with his successor, Mr Norman Willis (Photograph: John Manning).

Card vote retaken after Nalco confusion

A mix up in voting led to the first card vote of the congress being taken and reversed yesterday some hours after the debate on anti-union legislation and the NGA dispute against Messinger newspaper.

There had been a misunderstanding about which amendment was the subject of the first card vote which led to Nalco casting its 780,000 votes wrong way.

A motion by the National Graphical Association rejected the decision of the TUC general council on December 14, 1983, to refuse to support the NGA in its 24-hour stoppage of its members in protest at the use of the 1980 and 1982 Employment Acts by the Messinger Group.

It declared that the council decision was contrary to the policy agreed by the movement at the 1982 Wembley conference.

The long motion on the subject of the 1980 and 1982 Employment Acts instructed the general council to implement them in full should any affiliated union in future be provoked by employers using the provisions of the 1980 and 1982 Acts.

The amendment, which was first rejected on a card vote by 5,539,000 votes to 4,333,000, was in the afternoon carried by 5,316,000 votes to 4,674,000, a majority of 642,000.

Moved by the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (Engineering Section), the amendment had sought to add to the main motion recognition that the Wembley statement had not meant automatic TUC support for the actions of an affiliate and emphasized the need for unions seeking TUC assistance to take account of the general course of events.

After it was eventually passed, the main amended motion was carried by 5,562,000 votes to 2,879,000. A majority of 2,683,000.

An amendment by the Institution of Professional Civil Servants demanding condemnation of the TUC, including Mr Len Murray, for its handling of the NGA dispute from another motion was carried by 4,482,000 votes to 3,481,000, a majority of 1,001,000.

Mr Murray had told the congress that he made no apology for what he or the general council had done over the Messinger dispute. It would have been an admission of responsibility to expose their faults and those of all unions to the courts.

Mr William Keys, secretary of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades '82, speaking on the general council report on Trade Unionism, said that industrial relations before the debate on the motions, said that the TUC had been unable to persuade Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, to drop the case against the TUC.

The legislation had nothing to do with handling unions back to their members. It had everything to do with eroding democracy in unions and above all it was a blatant attempt to destabilize some unions.

Mr King had put a new duty on unions to compile a register of members and had given the High Court extended powers to meddle in union affairs. "This further attempt to shackle the trade unions cannot go unanswered," Mr Keys said.

Unions should not indulge in panic reaction but would need to study the

new Act and work out their response.

It was suicidal for unions to neglect political activity, as it would be to ignore industrial action. Every political question was a worker's question. The Trade Union Act was a battleground for the future.

Of the Manpower Services Commission Mr Keys said that the Government's interference in the way it would be the politics of a failure to walk away from the MSC. This would not impress the young people who needed help and protection. The Youth Training Scheme needed a campaign for improvement, not to be abandoned.

Mr John Morton, Secretary of the Musicians' Union, moving his union's resolution, said there were two sides to respect for the law. Responsibility for an orderly society lay on those who made and administered the law as well as on those who broke it.

Mr Morton said that the Government had failed to observe that responsibility. It wanted to restore the balance of power to the employers.

What about the judges? Lord Denning had advised unions to leave matters to the judges, but the whole history of trade unions disproved the wisdom of that proposal. Some judges did not understand the whole class of people such as trade unionists.

"The 1980, 1982, and 1984 Acts are simply a network woven from blind antagonism to the trade unions," Mr Morton said. "We need to negotiate wide-ranging discussions on trade union laws to take us into the next century."

Any practical scenario must include the common law system and the House of Lords. It would have to curb the power of judges to issue wide ranging injunctions in industrial issues.

Mr Allen Meadows, of the Banking, Insurance and Finance Union, moving his union's motion, said it was possible that some employers in the newer industries would import the techniques and services of union-busts. Unions would find it increasingly difficult to organize and to achieve recognition, and no option which might help the trade union movement should be excluded.

Mr Meadows said that the Government had been putting 667,000 and sequestered for funding into practice the policy of congress, protecting fundamental trade union principles. He was

applauded again when he said "what primarily motivated the general council in the Messinger dispute? The prospect of TUC involvement in contempt proceedings and an overriding desire to protect the now discredited new realism."

The problem 'Warrington', and now, was that it was not possible to have an effective industrial dispute and remain within the law.

All the NGA had wanted was a statement of support for its action. The general council decision to overturn its own employment committee and to refuse to issue such a statement was a day of betrayal and humiliation for my union. To renewed applause Mr Dubbins said: "This motion will ensure it will not happen again."

Mr James Knapp, general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, said that if ever a union had a case for support it was the NGA in the Messinger dispute. The NGA was trying to defend members who had been horribly victimized and it was trying to do it by legitimate use of its union rules.

Seconding the NGA motion, Mr Knapp said the Government's employment legislation was designed to shackle the effectiveness of any trade union in trying to defend the interests of its members.

Mr Ray Grantham, general secretary of the Association of Professional Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff, moving his union's amendment, said the NGA could not have won its dispute with the Messinger group whatever the TUC did.

He urged unions to back the general council in standing up to the Government where they could win. "Don't ask our movement to throw away its resources by fighting every case even if it has already been lost."

Mr Colin Bourne, of the National Union of Journalists, said that when the general council failed to support the NGA, his union had already risked everything in supporting a union they believe was following TUC policy.

If the National Union of Mineworkers had not had the example of the treatment of the NGA perhaps it would have come to the TUC earlier. Mr Bourne said: "If the TUC had not failed to support the NGA, the Government would not have the guts to take on the civil servants at GCHQ."

Mr Michael McGahery, president of the Scottish NUM, said that the NUM, miners and mining communities would like to thank the congress for its support the previous day.

"That decision means that you support our struggle and we are in breach of the law. I do not want to apologise for being in breach of an unjust law. 'This movement's whole existence was to combat unjust laws.'"

The NGA and the movement have not deliberately set out to break the law," he said. "This has been thrust upon us by this Government making unlawful trade unions engage in."

At no stage in the Messinger dispute did the general council defend the NGA's action, defending its jobs, wages and working conditions, was anything other than justified.

Mr Dubbins applauded when he said that the NGA had been fined 667,000 and sequestered for funding into practice the policy of congress, protecting fundamental trade union principles. He was

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Mr Colin Bourne, of the National Union of Journalists, said that when the general council failed to support the NGA, his union had already risked everything in supporting a union they believe was following TUC policy.

If the National Union of Mineworkers had not had the example of the treatment of the NGA perhaps it would have come to the TUC earlier. Mr Bourne said: "If the TUC had not failed to support the NGA, the Government would not have the guts to take on the civil servants at GCHQ."

Mr Michael McGahery, president of the Scottish NUM, said that the NUM, miners and mining communities would like to thank the congress for its support the previous day.

"That decision means that you support our struggle and we are in breach of the law. I do not want to apologise for being in breach of an unjust law. 'This movement's whole existence was to combat unjust laws.'"

The NGA and the movement have not deliberately set out to break the law," he said. "This has been thrust upon us by this Government making unlawful trade unions engage in."

At no stage in the Messinger dispute did the general council defend the NGA's action, defending its jobs, wages and working conditions, was anything other than justified.

Mr Dubbins applauded when he said that the NGA had been fined 667,000 and sequestered for funding into practice the policy of congress, protecting fundamental trade union principles. He was

'Link pensions to earnings' call

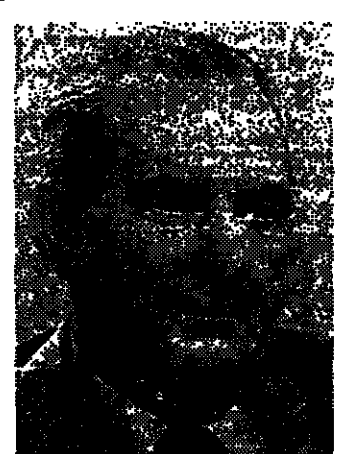
Delegates carried unanimously on a show of hands a motion calling for a married couple's state retirement pension of half national average earnings, and a single person's pension of one third. The pensions would not be means tested.

The motion also sought restoration in the state scheme of the link between pensions and earnings, and a separate review every five years. Under the motion the general council would also set up a pensioners' committee to consider pensioners' rights and welfare.

Mrs Marie Patterson, of the Transport and General Workers Union, in an address on the general council's report on social insurance and industrial welfare before the debate on the motion, said that the government was reluctant to care for everything in sight.

The black cloud over social security was the Government's so-called social security reviews. There were fears that those were merely a smokescreen for the attacks on social security, that they were not genuine.

The general council would be pressing the Government for consultations on any proposals emerging from the reviews before any legislation was introduced. "They must not be allowed to slip in major changes by the back door," she told the delegates.



Mr Kitson: Support for 'powerless' pensioners

pressing the Government for consultations on any proposals emerging from the reviews before any legislation was introduced. "They must not be allowed to slip in major changes by the back door," she told the delegates.

The TUC would continue to argue that the social security system was for everyone's benefit, that national insurance was the best way to provide for retirement, unemployment and sickness which were universal. Social security should not be returned to the medieval poor law level of applying only to those who were "poor and unfortunate."

Mr Alex Kitson, of the Transport and General Workers Union, moving the motion for his union, said that for too long pensioners had been treated as a powerless mass, separated from working people.

Mr Brenda Dean, of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades '82, seconding the motion, said that Norman Foster (Secretary of State for Social Services) would undermine established occupational pension schemes if they let him get away with it.

"Watch out, there's a thief about. That's the name behind the motion," she said. "That is the name behind the motion and it will be the biggest swindle yet perpetrated on working people if they get away with it."

Campaign against Tory attack on political levy

By Glen Allan

A drive to establish a united front to challenge the Government's measures on union political levy was launched at the TUC last night.

The campaign, inspired by the Labour Coordinating Committee, was announced at a fringe meeting addressed by Mr Tom Sawyer, deputy general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees and a member of the Labour Party National executive committee.

The government measures, which mean that all trade unions affiliated to the Labour party must ballot members by November or next year on whether to continue the contributions, could affect the party badly. About £3m is contributed by unions annually, representing about 70 per cent of the party's annual income.

Mr Sawyer yesterday called for a five-point initiative to revitalize the trade unions' purpose and methods as "the essential backdrop" to the defence of union rights to Labour Party affiliation and political action.

"For the past 18 months the trade union movement has been caught in a pincer attack between the Government's hostility and the 'new realism' day dreams," Mr Sawyer said.

"Both of these influences, repugnant as they are, throw up a solid challenge to Labour and the unions that must not be ignored if we are to grasp the major issues ahead and build support for a trade union movement wedded to the people's party."

Mr Sawyer demanded a new political agenda of stronger union organization, great membership involvement, better education programmes, a fresh approach to collective bargaining, including a shorter working week, and a statutory minimum wage and closer links with community groups.

A Nup campaign leaflet explains: "The Trade Union Act restricts what unions can do without a political fund, and it forces them to ballot members every 10 years to see if the fund should continue."

Health service cash limits condemned

The congress carried unanimously a motion by the Confederation of Health Service Employees' Unions demanding the abolition of cash limits and said that adequate funding was necessary to regenerate the infrastructure, to improve services, to meet demand, to reduce waiting lists, and to increase NHS workers' pay.

Mr David Williams, general secretary of Colson, moving the motion, accepted two amendments. One, by the Transport and General Workers Union, wanted an increase in NHS resources of at least 3 per cent a year in real terms and asked for abolition of private practices in the NHS and abolition of prescription charges.

The other amendment, by the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (Engineering Section) called on all TUC unions to withdraw from private medical schemes negotiated with companies.

Irish pilot's joke upsets pilgrims

From Richard Ford Belfast

An airline pilot has been suspended from duty after offensive remarks were accidentally relayed over the aircraft speaker system as a Roman Catholic priest recited the rosary.

The pilgrims were travelling to Lourdes with the Irish Republic's state-run Aer Lingus.

As Canon Patrick Murray, from Adhlon, Co. Westmeath, was joined by priests, other pilgrims, and nuns in a decade of the rosary, over the public address system came the words "You Catholic bastards. Stop the rosary."

The pilgrims were astonished at the remarks which the aircraft's captain had made as a joke to colleagues.

Canon Murray approached the captain, himself a Roman Catholic, and received an apology for the incident but Aer Lingus has suspended the man while an investigation is held.

Mr David Kennedy, the airline's chief executive, has written to the Bishop of Elphin, Mr Dominic Conway, apologizing for the remarks.

Canon Murray, who returned to the republic with the pilgrims two days ago, had not heard the remarks, nor had he heard many people complaining about them.

Whitehall's 'system of disbelief' attacked

From Peter Hennessy, York

The senior Civil Service has "an impoverished concept of management," which prevents it from implementing fully the Government's Whitehall efficiency strategy, Professor Les Metcalfe, of the European Institute of Public Administration and a former member of the Prime Minister's Efficiency Unit, said yesterday.

In a paper prepared jointly with Ms Sue Richards, a senior lecturer at the Civil Service College with recent Treasury experience, for a conference of academics and civil servants at York University, Professor Metcalfe said that there was a danger that the Government's efficiency initiative would at best "drag British governments kicking and screaming into the 1990s."

Whitehall operated a "disbelief system" which enabled top officials to winnow out those elements of recent management thinking, including some of the proposals of the programme prepared by Lord Rayner, Mrs Margaret Thatcher's first efficiency adviser, which they did not like or did not understand.

Professor Metcalfe and Ms Richards made clear their views were their own and did not commit the Government. They said a genuine transformation of management in Whitehall would have far-reaching constitutional implications.

Management could not be separated from the wider Whitehall culture which, in the past, had made an artificial distinction between policymaking and the carrying out of decisions taken by ministers. The Government's efficiency strategy and its financial management initiative had been constructed "within the framework of established constitutional myth and ritual."

More than 14 per cent of adults watch teletext television services, according to an independent survey.

Sport was the most popular category, with 44 per cent of those who watched regularly, followed by news, 40 per cent.

The survey of 20,000 people was carried out over six months for Oracle, the independent teletext service, by NOP Market Research. It found that 6.25 million people had watched Oracle, 3.3 million of them in the past seven days.

More than two million homes had teletext sets

Baby death charge man in court

Andrew Edward Neil, aged 20, appeared at Camberwell Green Magistrates' Court, south-east London, yesterday, charged with the murder of Tyra Henry, aged 21 months.

Neil, of Bonham Road, Brixton, south London, who is charged with murdering Tyra on September 1 at Evelyn house, Bonham Road, Brixton, was remanded in custody to appear before Lambeth magistrates on September 27.

He is also charged with assaulting Tyra's mother, Claudette Henry, aged 19, at the same address on August 24.

Island for sale

The island of Taner, More, off the north-west coast of Scotland, is up for sale, for just over £1m. The island was used by Frank Fraser Darling, the biologist.

Acid rain study

The Welsh Water Authority is to conduct a three-year study of the effects of acid rain on soil near the Llyn Brianne reservoir in Dyfed, West Wales.

Police claims

Police cars in the West Midlands are being damaged so frequently, either by accidents or vandals, that a full-time clerk is being hired to handle insurance claims.

Kinnock aims to limit damage

Mr Len Murray and other speakers had also condemned this violence the day before. Had Mr Kinnock said less than he did on this theme yesterday, he would not have been acting in his own best interests.

It is only fair, however, to give a political leader credit when he makes the general statement of principle that is expected of him. Mr Kinnock deserves to be given that credit, without being transformed into a political hero.

He must now be hoping for a speedy compromise that would give neither Mrs Thatcher nor Mr Scargill the victory that each of them seeks. This would not bring Mr Kinnock and the Labour Party any immediate political dividends. There is no possible conclusion to the strike that would do that.

But the longer it continues the more embarrassing it will be for Mr Kinnock, and the worse it will be for him in the end if there is a decisive outcome one way or the other.

For the moment Mr Kinnock's task is one of damage limitation. He needs to follow-up yesterday's speech by making it absolutely clear that he is prepared to condemn trade union violence wherever and whenever it may occur.

In the long term he would stand to gain from the warning of Mr Scargill, provided that he had given the miners just enough support to avoid being blamed for their failure.

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Warsaw looks at law change to exile Solidarity opposition

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Expulsion of political offenders is being considered by the Polish authorities as a way of tackling the embarrassing opposition to General Jaruzelski - and the measure could be used against the leadership and advisers of the illegal Solidarity union.

Mr Jerzy Urban, the government spokesman, said yesterday that legal experts were examining the feasibility of changes in the penal code which would make it lawful to expel Polish citizens from the country if they were "repeated and insistent offenders against the constitutional system." Such legislation was not unique and similar clauses existed in French, Swiss (although in this case it applied to foreigners) and Brazilian law.

Although Mr Urban emphasized that the experts were carrying out a feasibility study at the initiative of the Government's law and order committee, headed by the Interior Minister, General Czeslaw Kiszczak, the right to expel citizens would add an ominous new weapon to the armoury against political offenders.

When the United Nations and the Roman Catholic church were negotiating for the freedom of the 11 Solidarity leaders and advisers earlier this year, the Government repeatedly signalled that it would be prepared to accept a "temporary

exile" for the imprisoned opposition. The talks broke down, largely because the prisoners refused to accept such a solution, and the Solidarity leadership was freed without conditions under an amnesty announced on July 21.

But the Government obviously sees long-term problems with the organizers of the Solidarity Opposition, few of whom have shown any willingness to abandon their struggle. A central problem, Mr Urban admitted yesterday, is finding Western governments ready to take expelled Poles. Several have been approached informally and it has been repeatedly hinted that, under certain circumstances, Greece would be prepared to take exiled opposition figures.



Mr Urban: Approaches to the West

The attraction of such a system for the Polish Government is that it keeps the number of political prisoners low and avoids creating martyrs for Solidarity.

Under the amnesty law, underground activists freed from prison will be rearrested and have to serve their full term, plus an additional sentence, if they are found committing a "similar" offence. That has raised the prospect of prisons filling up again rather swiftly, reducing the propaganda effect of the amnesty on Western governments, which are being urged to lift sanctions.

However, the authorities seem to have dodged the issue by applying "summary" or "administrative" measures. Asked whether Mr Wladyslaw Frasyniuk and Mr Jozef Pinior - Solidarity leaders who were rearrested on August 31 and immediately sentenced to two months' jail - would become fully-fledged political prisoners again, and the effects of the amnesty be revoked, Mr Urban replied in the negative. They were "sentenced not by a court, but by an administrative body, not for a crime, but for a civil offence." The authorities have thus found a way of locking up political offenders without assigning them the potentially embarrassing status of "political prisoner".

Hijacked plane passengers back in Tehran

Tehran (Reuters) - Two hundred passengers and crew of an Iranian airliner hijacked to Iraq returned to Tehran yesterday after spending a week under Iraqi guard in an hotel in Baghdad.

Mr Frederic Maurice, the Tehran representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross, told reporters the two Iranian hijackers and four other passengers had remained in Iraq.

The airliner was assumed to be still in Iraq yesterday. Iran has called on the Baghdad authorities to return it and Iran Air said yesterday that efforts would continue through international aviation organizations "for the return of the aircraft and the trial of the hijackers".

Israel coalition talks reopen at lower level

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv

Negotiations between Likud and the Labour Party for a national unity Government reopened at a lower level after talks between Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the outgoing Prime Minister, and Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister designate ended in deadlock on Sunday night.

Mr Moshe Shahal, the Labour Whip in Parliament, and Mr Dan Meridor, of Likud, met in Jerusalem to try to resolve the controversy over Jewish settlements in occupied Arab territories.

There were no formal talks concerning the differences over the division of authority but representatives of the National Religious Party who met Mr Shamir and Mr Peres separately

said they were both willing to make concessions.

Mr Shamir reported to a caucus of the Likud parliamentary faction that he was ready to compromise concerning the structure of the Government but would not accept a freeze on settlements.

LOD: An Israeli military court yesterday committed the death sentence of two Israeli Arabs convicted of murdering a soldier they picked up hitchhiking in Israel (AP reports).

The court reduced the sentence of Maher and Karim Younis, convicted of murder and membership in the Palestine Liberation Organization, to life imprisonment. The two men, both 26, are distant relatives.

Routine assignment that ended in mystery

Wall of silence in hunt for lost journalist

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

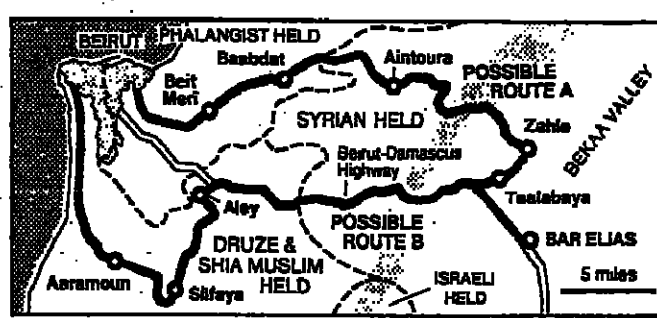
Jonathan Wright had been working the late shift at the Beirut office of Reuters on Tuesday last week, studying the reports still coming in of an Israeli air raid on a Palestinian base near the Bekaa Valley village of Bar Elias.

He turned up early the next day, driving to the office in his blue Fiat 2000 Mirafiori car and sitting in the newsroom to read through the overnight files from Reuters correspondents around the world.

He telephoned Andrew Tarnowski, the senior Reuters reporter in Beirut - the bureau chief was away on holiday in London - and the two agreed that Mr Wright should set off for the Bekaa to report on the previous day's air raid. It was a routine story for a journalist in Lebanon, checking the casualty reports of an air raid that was itself almost mundane.

Mr Tarnowski could not leave Beirut: a week earlier, three gunmen holding automatic rifles had stolen the office car in which he, and two colleagues were travelling through night-time Beirut, taking his passport, press accreditation and residence permit at the same time.

So Mr Wright, aged 30, from Oxford with fluent Arabic,



Lebanon puzzle: Jonathan Wright would have taken one of these two routes last Wednesday but he was not seen at any of the many checkpoints involved.

agreed to go to the Bekaa. His colleagues in the office remember him appearing tired as he left at 8.30 that Wednesday morning. He had been working hard on a long series of feature articles after a visit to Israeli-occupied southern Lebanon.

All he said as he walked out of the door was "I'm off." He has not been seen since.

The Reuters staff have tried everything to find him. They have been in touch with almost every militia and occupation army in Lebanon, asked their Damascus correspondent to contact the Syrian authorities - in whose area of Lebanon Mr Wright could have been travelling - distributed photographs

of the missing reporter and received a personal assurance from Mr Rashid Karami, the Lebanese Prime Minister, that the Lebanese authorities would do everything in their power to find him.

Mr Wright is a highly experienced journalist, familiar with Lebanon and its politics, calm under fire and well able to talk his way out of difficult situations.

So what happened to him? Mr Wright is likely to have chosen one of two roads to the Bekaa Valley. The first runs through East Beirut, controlled by Christian troops of the Lebanese Army and the Chris-



mountain passes held by the Syrian Army into the Bekaa.

Reuters reporters have driven along the two roads and discovered that none of the gunmen and soldiers on checkpoints there had seen Mr Wright. At Douer Choueir, for example, the Syrian troops questioned by Reuters had all been on duty when Mr Wright left Beirut, but none of them remembered a British reporter passing through their lines.

It seems increasingly likely, therefore, that Mr Wright was waylaid in Beirut, perhaps not far from the Reuters office.

David Betts, the Reuters bureau chief in Beirut, has contacted all the militias in the city, so far to no avail. "There hasn't been a trace so far," he said yesterday. "Not a phone call to us, not a word."

Mr Wright, who is shortly to take up the post of Reuters bureau chief in Oman, had returned only recently from southern Lebanon, where he had reported from Tyre and Marjayoun on Israel's continuing war with Lebanese guerrillas.

His reports were reprinted in Beirut's daily English language newspaper, but there was nothing in them likely to have angered Israeli, Syrian or Palestinian agents in the Lebanese capital.

Turner counts the cost of patronage issue

From John Best, Ottawa

An unseen presence hovered in the background as Canadians went to the polls in a federal general election yesterday. It was the first election in 19 years that Mr Pierre Trudeau was not a candidate. But although the former Prime Minister was not participating in the election, he was very much a part of it - in ways that his successor, Mr John Turner, may never regret.

That there is no love lost between the two has long been a basic fact of Canadian politics. But even Mr Turner was not prepared for the time-bomb that Mr Trudeau handed him just before turning over the reins of power on June 30, two weeks after Mr Turner had won the leadership of the Liberal party which Mr Trudeau was relinquishing after 16 years.

The retiring Prime Minister persuaded Mr Turner to sign a written promise to appoint 17 Liberal MPs, retiring at the same time, to well-paying jobs in the foreign service and as members of the Senate, Canada's non-elected Upper House.



Ebullient mood: Mr Mulroney, the Conservative leader, at his final rally in Quebec

It was probably the most fateful undertaking Mr Turner ever made. The appointments were the last of about 240 appointments made or suggested by Mr Trudeau in the month before he left office, and the wholesale largesse, distributed mostly to long-time Liberal supporters, blossomed into one of the biggest issues in the election campaign, helping to

push the Liberals into a defensive position.

Mr Turner has maintained that he had no choice but to give in to Mr Trudeau on the 17 appointments. Otherwise Mr Trudeau would simply have made the appointments effective before he stepped down as Prime Minister, thereby depriving his successor of the majority that the Liberals had been enjoying in the House of Commons.

In that case Canada's Governor-General might not have acceded to Mr Turner's request for a dissolution of Parliament for the early general election that Mr Turner wanted. Although some constitutional experts dispute this point, the Governor-General might simply have called on Mr Brian Mulroney, the Conservative leader, to form a government.

Mr Trudeau, who has retired with his three sons to a handsome house on the slope of Mount Royal in Montreal, took little part in the campaign until the final week or so.

Then he made several appearances on behalf of Liberal candidates

American held after bomb blast

From Our Correspondent, Ottawa

Police investigating the bomb explosion at a Montreal railway station which killed three people and injured 27 more, yesterday were questioning an American alleged to have written threatening notes a few days before the blast.

The man, named as Bernard Brigham, aged 65, a former US Air Force navigator, was arrested in a Montreal street.

Mr Brigham was identified by the police as the author of several notes delivered to railway authorities and news agencies in the days prior to the explosion attacking the Roman Catholic Church and urging: "Kill Pops."

The Pope will be in Montreal on Tuesday in the course of an 11-day Canadian tour. Mr Brigham's former wife said in Mentor, Ohio, that her former husband, a drug manufacturer, was declared mentally ill in 1973.

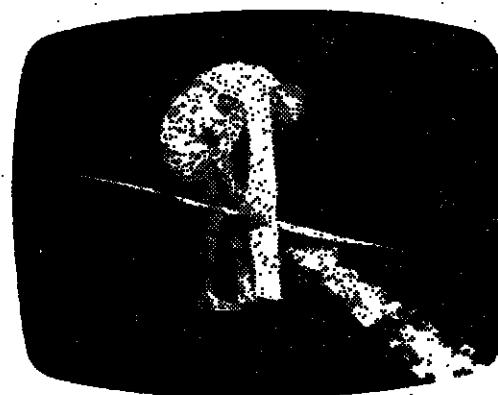
FEW CHANNELS WOULD DARE SHOW ONE OF THESE, LET ALONE ALL OF THEM.



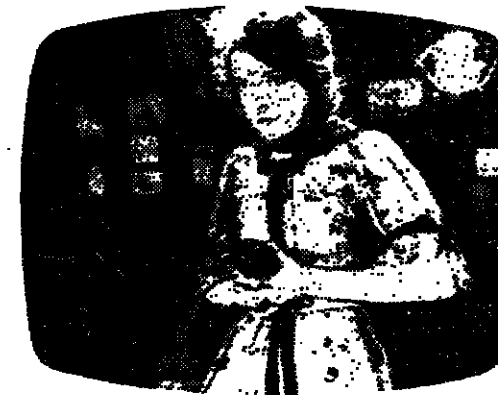
Wednesday 5th September. Gloria. The English National Opera Company with their recent triumph in America; Benjamin Britten's spectacular opera about Queen Elizabeth I.



Wednesday 12th September. Punch & Judy. Harrison Birtwistle's opera of desire and aggression, directed by David Freeman and described as "a vivid and violent post-Freudian melodrama," marks the composer's fiftieth birthday.



Wednesday 19th September. Satyagraha. The first chance for British audiences to see Stuttgart Opera's controversial production of Philip Glass's hypnotic opera based on Gandhi's life and legacy of non-violence.



Wednesday 26th September. The Wind. An original print of the silent film that made Lillian Gish famous. Life on a Texan prairie is so sharply portrayed you can feel the wind and taste the endless dust. With new Carl Davis score.



Wednesday 3rd October. Show People. King Vidor's 1928 malicious and satirical comedy of Hollywood. Starring Marion Davies in an amusing parody of Gloria Swanson. With new Carl Davis score.



Wednesday 10th October. Broken Blossoms. A striking melodrama from D.W. Griffiths in 1919. Lillian Gish touchingly portrays life in slummy Limehouse. The original score by Louis Gottschalk is conducted by Carl Davis.



Wednesday 17th October. A Woman of Affairs. A 1928 Garbo film never screened before. The story in which she goes from man to man (including Douglas Fairbanks Jr.) is taken from a popular twenties novel. With new Carl Davis score.



Wednesday 24th October. La Cenerentola. Rossini's enchanting opera of Cinderella sensitively filmed by Jean-Pierre Ponnelle, starring the delicious Frederica von Stade.



Wednesday 31st October. Baryshnikov by Tharp. Three pieces specially choreographed by Twyla Tharp for Mikhail Baryshnikov and his American Dance Theatre, climaxing in Sinatra Suite, a setting of Sinatra's greatest songs.



Wednesday 14th November. West. Enfant terrible of theatre Stephen Berkoff has adapted his highly successful "West" a contemporary epic about London gangs in mock-Shakespearean conflict, with dazzling video effects.



Wednesday 21st November. The Mabino. Caernarvon Castle is the grand setting for this film of Welsh pre-Arthurian legends, combining dance, action and local people in a pageant with music by Robin Williamson and Celtic reggae by Geraint Jarman.



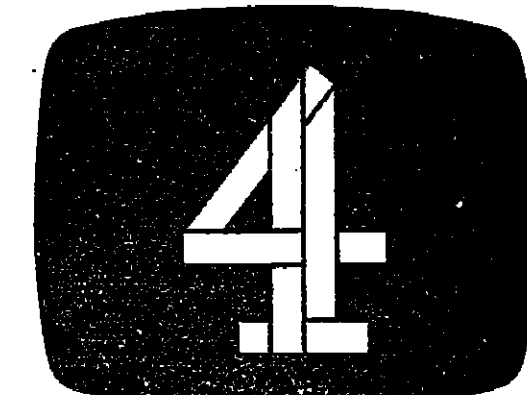
Wednesday 28th November. Starwashed. The surreal cabaret and fringe theatre group "The People Show" appear with guest star Julie Covington, in a rabelaisian tale of tattered vaudevillians.



Wednesday 5th December. Puccini. Tony Palmer's controversial film, starring Robert Stephens and Virginia McKenna, sets facts about Puccini's marriage against extracts from Turandot.



Wednesday 12th December. Kipling. Alec McCowen as Rudyard Kipling in Brian Clark's challenging play, initiated by Channel 4. A triumph at London's Mermaid, it opens on Broadway shortly.



Our Autumn Arts season brings you the best of theatre and dance, film classics, virtuoso singers and actors. Enough, surely, to please everyone for at least some of the time. Performance. 9.00pm Wednesdays.

Honecker visit furore

Victory for hardliners in Kremlin linked to Chernenko uncertainty

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The decision by Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, not to go to West Germany this month - and possibly not at all - is seen in Moscow as a victory for Kremlin hardliners.

There has been evidence of high-level policy differences in the Kremlin on this and other important issues over the past month. Diplomats link the differences to Politburo manoeuvring in the absence of President Chernenko, who is thought to be ill.

At the beginning of August Pravda launched a vituperative attack on West Germany, indicating Kremlin displeasure at the prospect of an East-West German summit at a time of general East-West tension. *Izvestiya*, however, appeared to defend Herr Honecker's policy of dialogue with the West when it said that such contacts were beneficial for both sides.

In mid-August Professor Georgy Arbatov, director of the Institute for the Study of the USA and Canada and a senior Kremlin adviser, wrote in *Pravda* in temperate language on the lack of East-West contacts, and deplored the loss of dialogue on political, economic, scientific and cultural matters.

The Arbatov and *Izvestiya* articles have since been swamped by a barrage of anti-West German propaganda, indicating that hardliners had gained the upper hand and that Herr Honecker was under intense pressure from Moscow to call off his trip.

Diplomats cautioned against linking the newspaper debate to

specific Politburo factions, but said the differences between *Pravda* hardliners on the one hand and *Izvestiya* and Dr Arbatov on the other reflected the Kremlin in dilemma over its relations with East Germany.

Policy divisions have intensified with President Chernenko's two-month absence from public life and growing rumours that he is incapacitated.

The Soviet leader gave an interview to *Pravda* last Sunday, but this is not regarded as proof that he is in command, since Mr Andropov did the same shortly before he died. Mr Chernenko has not been seen in public since he left Moscow on holiday in mid-July.

Pravda yesterday published a front page editorial on preparations for the next party congress but did not mention Mr Chernenko once, even though he has been active in preparing a new party programme for the congress to adopt.

The congress, the twenty seventh, is not due until 1986. Observers said *Pravda* seemed to be indicating that the Soviet Union might have a new leader by then.

On Sunday *Sovetskaya Rossiya*, in addition to reproducing Mr Chernenko's *Pravda* interview, also carried a front page article on the death of Lenin's mother at the age of 73, adding "At that age any ailment can take you by surprise".

This cryptic hint is preceded by the remark that Lenin learnt of the illness by "reading between the lines" of a telegram, Mr Chernenko will be 73 at the end of the month.

Articles in the same occasional series, called "Reading Lenin Anew", were used to hint at Mr Andropov's deterioration.

Diplomats detect further signs of disarray in Soviet policy on arms control. In his *Pravda* interview, Mr Chernenko made a point of emphasizing his view that if the Vienna talks on space weapons due to take place in two weeks time were successful, it would "facilitate" the resumption of talks on strategic missiles at Geneva.

But a Foreign Ministry spokesman on Monday denied that any such linkage existed, and re-stated Moscow's hard-line conditions for a return to Geneva. This is seen as an intervention by Mr Andropov, the Foreign Minister, who has been largely responsible for Moscow's unrelentingly hostile policy toward the United States since Mr Chernenko took over in February.

The Soviet press has reflected Politburo divisions during past crises, including Afghanistan and Czechoslovakia. In 1968 *Pravda* backed the invasion of Czechoslovakia while other papers, including *Trud*, the trade union daily, strongly hinted at high-level reservations.

Last week *Trud* again came to the fore, publishing several articles in favour of the internal reforms initiated by Mr Andropov, which are regarded sceptically by Mr Chernenko but strongly supported by the younger generation Politburo members who stand to succeed him, including Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, aged 53.

Bonn grasps Berlin's straws to keep hopes of trip alive

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

The second postponement within two years of the first visit here by an East German leader is a bitter disappointment to Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Government and a powerful reminder to the rest of Eastern Europe that the Soviet Union will not allow any real show of independence by its most important Warsaw Pact ally.

The postponement is likely to lead to sharp recommitments here over recent statements by senior Bonn politicians on German unity and reunification, which were the official pretext given by East Germany for Herr Erich Honecker's decision not to come.

But it is recognized here that the determined opposition from Moscow over the past six weeks to closer ties between the two German states, and the massive private and public pressure on Herr Honecker, put him in an intolerable position.

Bonn has shown understanding - while refraining from comment - of his evident wish not to antagonize the Russians further after East Berlin's pointed opposition to the Kremlin's freeze on relations with the West.

A statement by Herr Philipp Jenninger, State Secretary in the Chancellery, who has led the intensive talks preparing for the visit in recent months, rejected the reasons given yesterday morning by Herr Ewald Moldt, East Germany's representative in Bonn.

Herr Moldt said the style of public controversy in West Germany in connection with the visit was "extremely unseemly and detrimental to it," something that was "absolutely



Herr Jenninger: Talks on communique went ahead.

irregular in relations between sovereign states".

Herr Jenninger said in reply: "The federal republic is a country in which everyone can freely express his opinion". He noted that on several occasions Bonn had made it clear that Herr Honecker was welcome, and said talks about a joint communiqué had shown there were no differences that could not be overcome.

The belief in government circles yesterday was that Herr Honecker, who first accepted an invitation in 1981, still wanted to come. This optimism that the visit was only postponed, not cancelled, was based on Herr Moldt's remark to Herr Jenninger that the date, rather than the visit itself, was "unrealistic," and on the fact that the two men went on to discuss the communiqué that will not now be issued.

It is thought East Germany would like to use this for a later visit.

The Bonn statement hoped

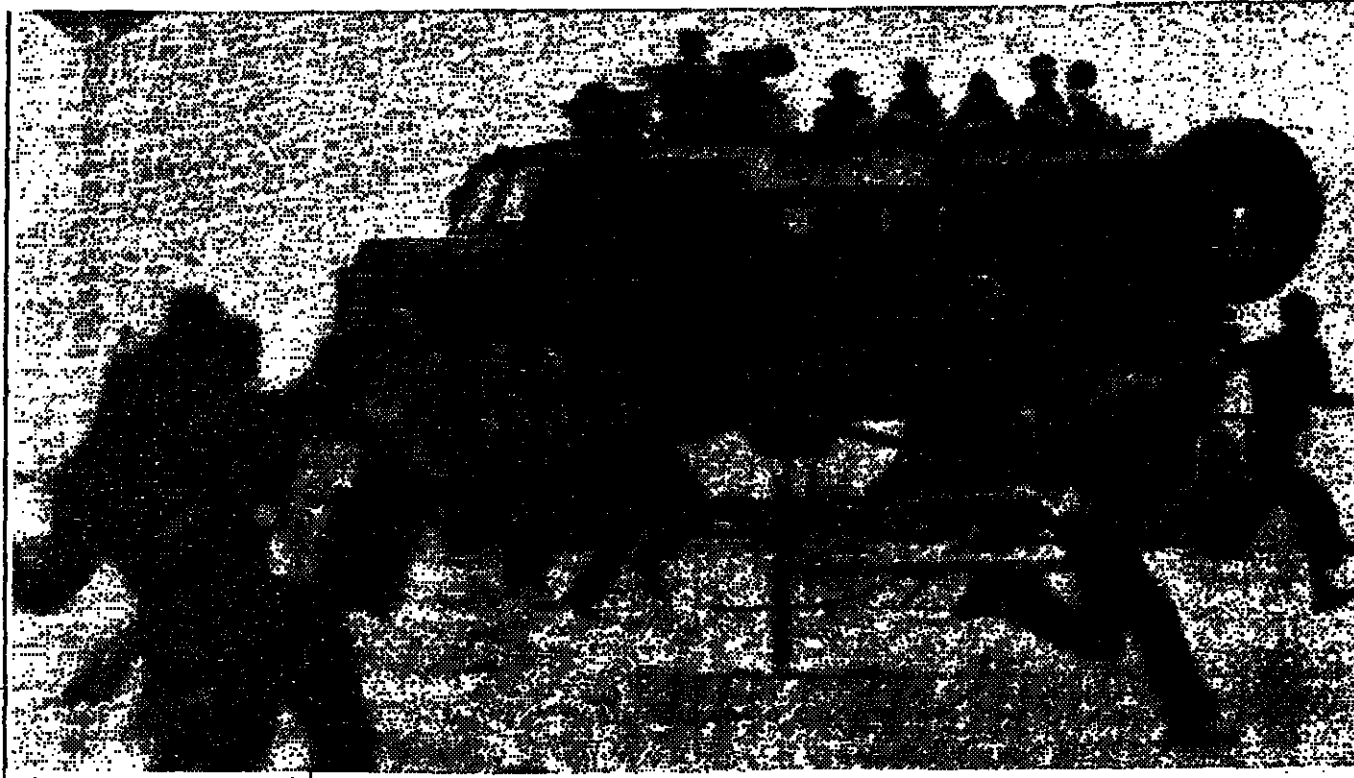
the postponement would not damage overall relations or continuing cooperation between the two countries. Sources noted that Herr Honecker pointedly emphasized his wish to continue an improvement in relations even as signs mounted in the past week that he would not be coming.

Nevertheless, the domestic and international repercussions of the postponement are significant. Herr Kohl will come under renewed attack for allowing unwise statements on German reunification and relations with the GDR to be made by members of his own party, and the Social Democratic Opposition will reproach him for political clumsiness in agreeing to address the congress of Germans expelled from eastern territories.

There has been a propaganda coup for the Russians, and yesterday the Czech press, following *Pravda* on Monday, accused Herr Kohl of "virtually identifying himself" with "revanchist" claims.

Herr Honecker's judicious retreat from his cautious defiance of Moscow will be a blow to other East European states, which realized the importance of keeping a window open to the West. Even Poland, deeply suspicious of any closer relations between the two Germanies, spoke of the importance of continuing dialogue with the West.

Political observers here say the real reason for the confusion in Eastern Europe over the Honecker visit lies in Moscow, where, in the absence of leadership and authority by President Chernenko, a tough battle is being fought between hardliners.



Show of strength: A crowd looting shops in Sebokeng flees as a police riot-control vehicle arrives.

Rent rises triggered black rioting

From Michael Hornsby, Sharpeville

Violence continued here and in three other black townships along the river Vaal about 40 miles south of Johannesburg yesterday as the police announced that the death toll in Monday's explosion of arson, looting and killing had risen to 26.

The unrest also spread farther south to a black township near the Orange Free State white town of Welkom, where the police used tear gas to disperse gangs of black youths. The situation on the East Rand, however, where there was violence on Monday was reported to be quiet.

No further deaths were reported to have occurred yesterday, but during a lull in the disturbances in the morning the police discovered 12 more bodies. They also said 38 civilians and eight policemen had been injured and 35 people arrested for public violence and housebreaking.

Unofficial sources, however, estimated the total of those injured as high as several hundred. The superintendent at the 800-bed Sebokeng hospital

the biggest in the area, said it had been extremely busy since early on Monday, but that he was under instructions to say nothing to the press about the number of people treated.

Troops in combat gear took up a defensive position yesterday morning at the main entrance to Sebokeng township at the request of white administration officials. A senior official said the troops had later been withdrawn.

Police wearing camouflage uniforms made regular sorties into the riot-torn townships in personnel carriers, using tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse crowds of young rioters and looters. Plumes of smoke could be seen rising from fires.

More than 60 buildings, including homes, food- and liquor stores, beerhalls, hostels, bus depots, garages, churches and schools have been damaged, burnt or looted.

Only a skeleton bus service was operating yesterday, and from the outskirts of the troubled townships, and white-run factories and businesses in

and around Vereeniging, the main white town in the area, reported widespread absenteeism among black employees.

Generally, journalists were not allowed into the townships, but it was possible to venture some way into Sharpeville along the rubble-strewn main street, lined with the drab rows of identical pillbox houses typical of black residential areas, past a smashed and burnt-out petrol station.

Further access was prevented by a makeshift barricade of rocks and empty oil drums and a threat of being stoned. Although the level of violence was clearly less than on Monday, the situation was tense and volatile and could flare up again.

In the Evaton township, the brunt of the looting and destruction was born by Indian shopkeepers and small businessmen. Watching with a group of other Indians from a road running beside the township as his second hand car business went up in flames half a mile away, Mr Yusuf Gadat

said: "The Africans came and told us to get out on Monday".

Although deaths have been caused by police gunfire, many of the dead appear to be blacks killed by other blacks. As so often in the past, in their inability to strike directly at the white Government, the anger and frustration of young blacks was expended on their own communities.

There seems to be no doubt that rent increases started the violence, which also attracted a purely hooligan element. Unrest has been seething for most of the year, however, in black townships in Transvaal and parts of northern Orange Free State, mainly because of grievances to do with the inferior quality of black education.

In the past month, the political atmosphere has also become increasingly charged as plans have gone ahead for the introduction of the new constitution which came into legal force at midnight last Sunday.

Leading article, page 13

Astronauts knock ice from shuttle

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Discovery's astronauts yesterday used the shuttle's robot arm to knock a chunk of ice from the side of their space ship and began preparing for its first landing today.

Mr Henry Hartsfield, mission commander of Discovery's six-day maiden voyage, took control of the 50ft robot arm and gently tapped the ice chunk sticking about 18in out from two waste water venting ports. "We got most of it," Judith Resnik, the second American woman in space, told Mission Control in Houston.

Mission Control managers had feared that the ice, estimated to weigh between 10lb and 25lb, might have broken off during reentry into the atmosphere and damaged Discovery's tail.

The ice block, melted down to about half its size by overnight heating, had measured about 18in in length and about 9in at its widest point before the operation.

A remaining piece of about 5in was not considered a hazard. It appeared to be porous and not very hard. The crew will make another attempt to dislodge this with the robot arm, NASA said yesterday.

The small piece was blocking the waste discharge port and restricting the use of Discovery's lavatory.

The shuttle's accomplishments have included the successful launching of three communications satellites in the first three days of the mission and three days of a flawless testing of an experimental solar sail generator.

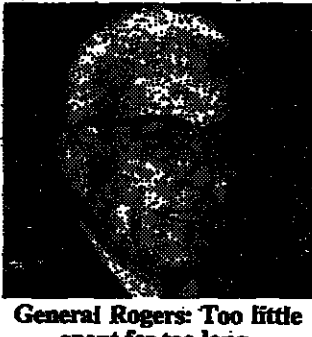
Nato commander wants 7% spending boost

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

General Bernard Rogers, Nato's Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, said yesterday that the alliance would have to increase its defence spending by 7 per cent a year for the rest of this decade to have a "reasonable prospect of frustrating Soviet conventional attack".

Speaking in Brussels, he said the increase was needed because of years of failure by most Nato countries to stick to the goal of a 3 per cent increase each year after allowing for inflation. There is no prospect of General Rogers getting the 7 per cent growth in spending. Britain and other countries are tending to drop even the 3 per cent target.

Two years ago General Rogers tried to get agreement on a 4 per cent a year increase. He was speaking yesterday at



General Rogers: Too little spent for too long.

a press conference to launch the annual Autumn Forge series of military exercises, which range from Denmark to Italy.

● MOSCOW: The Soviet press yesterday condemned Nato's autumn manoeuvres as a provocation and said the Warsaw Pact was carrying out its own exercises this week only because it was forced to respond (Reuter reports).

Prisoners end protest fast in Moroccan jail

From Geoffrey Morrison, Rabat

All but two of 29 prisoners on hunger strike for the past two months in protest at conditions in jail have abandoned their fast, the official Moroccan news agency, Map, announced yesterday.

Two of the fasting prisoners died last week. They were jailed for their part in student demonstrations in Marrakesh last January which preceded riots that swept across Moroccan cities leaving 29 dead and 114 injured.

Health fear on beaches in Portugal

From Our Correspondent, Lisbon

The beaches in Portugal's two main summer holiday areas were denounced this week as serious health hazards by the Quality of Life Minister, Dr Francisco Sousa Tavares.

In an interview on national radio, the Minister said that pollution from untreated sewage released into the sea at the Estoril coast resorts west of Lisbon was particularly bad. The problem was also becoming serious on the Algarve coast in the south.

"The beaches on the Estoril coast should be closed to bathers," he said. "All the limits of hygiene have been passed." There had been cases of intestinal trouble caused by water pollution on the Algarve coast.

Planes ferry massive aid to areas hit by typhoon

Manila - Huge relief operations began yesterday in typhoon-devastated provinces in the central and southern Philippines, where more than 440 people died, hundreds were injured and tens of thousands of people were made homeless (Keith Dalton writes).

Air Force planes carrying food and medical supplies shuttled between Cebu, Iloilo, Bacolod and Surigao - four cities which were badly battered by the strongest typhoon to hit the country in 14 years.

With many communication lines restored to the central Visayas region, casualty figures and estimates of damage are beginning to reach Manila.

In a national address, President Marcos called on the Filipino people to give assistance to the victims of the typhoon which he said was the most severe calamity in decades, affecting nearly 900,000 people.

Army lorry requests faked

Hamburg (AP) - Letters, purportedly from the Defence Ministry requesting 17 Hamburg shipping firms to allow some of their lorries to be used in the West German army's autumn military manoeuvres, are fake, authorities said yesterday.

The letters, which claimed to have come from the "logistics staff" in Bonn, had been posted in Cologne.

Police dog gets driving licence

Wuppertal (AP) - The police department here has issued a driving licence to Ajax, the German Shepherd police dog, which will "drive" a police car into a fair, and "arrest" a criminal, played by his handler. The licence is valid for life, unless Ajax loses it for drunk-driving.

Vatican meeting

Castelgandolfo (Reuters) - The Pope met two leading Brazilian churchmen, Cardinal Aloisio Lorscheider and Bishop Jose Ivo Lorscheider, a few days before the Brazilian theologian Father Leonardo Boff, is due to be questioned at the Vatican on his theological writings.

Korean protest

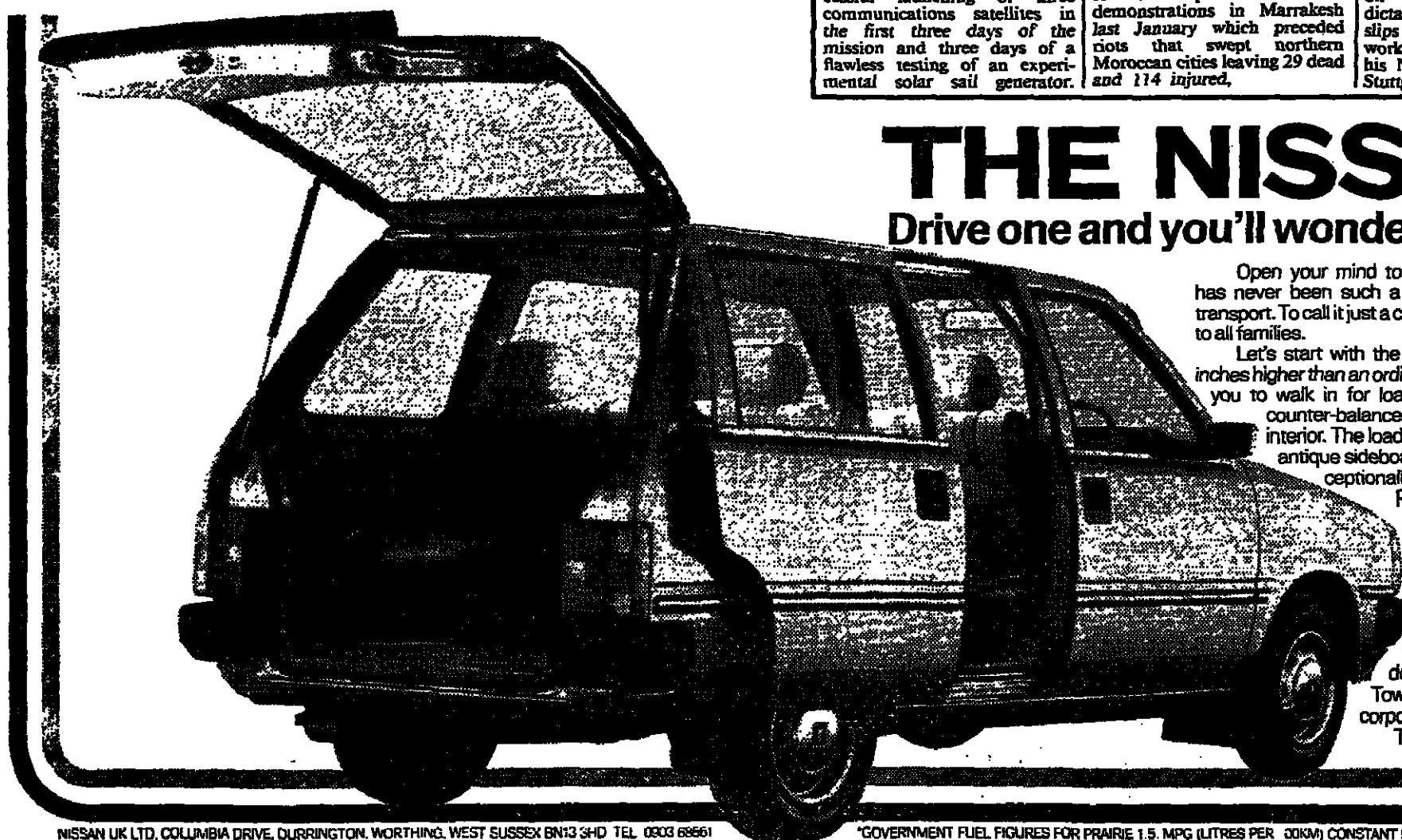
Seoul (Reuters) - Riot police yesterday used tear gas to disperse about 500 South Korean students protesting against President Chun Doo-hwan's visit to Japan, due to start tomorrow.

New post

Moscow (AP) - The Soviet Union has reassigned its ambassador to Singapore, Mr Fyodor Potapenko, to Malaysia.

Horse power

Melbourne - Mounted cattle-men blocked the centre of Melbourne yesterday as they drove more than 1,000 horses through the city in protest against the creation of a national park in the Great Dividing Range farming area.



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NISSAN

Democrats on the campaign trail

Mondale and Ferraro keep smiling through downpour of mishaps

From Nicholas Ashford, Long Beach, California

It could hardly be described as a great start to a presidential election campaign.

In New York hardly anybody turned out to watch Mr Walter Mondale and Ms Geraldine Ferraro, America's best known political partners, lead a Labour Day rally down Fifth Avenue.

When they arrived in Merrill, Wisconsin, a few hours later it began raining just as Ms Ferraro got up to speak to a large crowd that had gathered at the fairground.

And at Long Beach, California, Mr Mondale was interrupted several times by a faulty microphone and by a spectator fainting in the crowd.

To cap it all while Mr Mondale and Ms Ferraro jointly laboured against those unforeseen hazards, word came into the Mondale camp that President Reagan had opened his campaign before an unprecedentedly large crowd in Anaheim, California, and that his big lead over Mr Mondale in the opinion polls had widened still further.

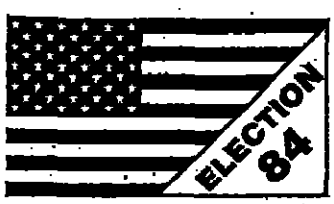
But if Mr Mondale and Ms Ferraro were dismayed by such setbacks just as they began their uphill battle to dislodge President Reagan from the White House in November, they did not show any sign of it.

They waved enthusiastically at the rows of empty chairs lining Fifth Avenue, waiting for spectators who never showed up. They joked about the weather when their audience in Merrill disappeared under a sea of umbrellas. And they just waved and smiled more broadly than ever when they realized that no one at the Long Beach

gathering could hear the words that Mr Mondale was mouthing.

The message which they tried to convey at each stop during their whistle-stop coast-to-coast tour, on Monday, was also determinedly upbeat. Put simply it was: "Don't write us off yet - We can still make it in November."

Throughout their speeches, Mr Mondale and Ms Ferraro emphasized the importance of the election that lies ahead and



the need for a large turnout by voters. "This is not just another election," Ms Ferraro said. "This is a watershed election over the future of this nation. Our future and that of our children is at stake."

They reiterated what they perceived to be the grave political, economic and social consequences of allowing President Reagan another four-year term, and drummed home the issues on which they feel the President is vulnerable: arms control, the budget deficit, taxes and fairness.

In many ways they are a well-matched pair. Ms Ferraro always speaks first, as mousy she is the warm-up act for the star attraction, which is what she really is.

Her voice is slightly thin, and

her sharp New York accent has a rasping tone to it once she is away from her home city. But the crowds seem to love her and break into chants of "Gerri, Gerri" whenever she speaks.

In fact the enthusiasm she generates is far greater than it is for Mr Mondale. She is a novelty in American politics, the first woman to run for the vice-presidency. Americans tend to like novelty, and many of the people who lined the route of the Labour Day parade in Merrill had travelled great distances just to see her. "Gerri, we love you," they cried as she and Mr Mondale drove along on the back seat of a cream 1958 Ford Fairlane convertible.

Mr Mondale seems unperturbed by all this adulation for his running mate. Indeed the main reason he chose her in the first place was to "energize" and "electrify" his own rather dull candidacy.

He beams like a kindly uncle as she receives her acclaim. But his attitude is always one of smiling deference. There is never the slightest hint of tenderness; not even an old-fashioned gesture such as a helping hand as she descends the steps of their aircraft.

There is genuine enthusiasm for Mr Mondale also, but it tends to be less vocal because he has been around in public life a long time and is not a novelty. He attracted his greatest applause in Merrill when, with rain still dripping from sodden black clouds, he took off his jacket and rolled up the sleeves of his carefully starched shirt.

Mr Mondale rarely takes off his jacket when campaigning.

His personality is as buttoned down as the shirts he wears. That is one of the main problems he faces as he confronts a President who positively oozes easy affability and whose sunny personality clearly watches the present mood of the nation.

Mr Mondale's seemingly innocuous gesture was seen by the crowd as a sign that he has finally begun to heed the advice given him recently by a group of Democratic governors: "Get out there, let your hair down, and campaign like hell."

Although Mr Mondale did not let his hair down, his speaking style has much improved - and he is clearly doing his damndest to give Mr Reagan hell.

He accused Mr Reagan of endangering the security of the United States by failing to meet his Soviet counterpart or to negotiate any form of arms control agreement during his time in office.

He chastized the President for building up a huge budget deficit and for having no serious proposal for reducing it. He implied that Mr Reagan was being less than honest with the American people by suggesting that he would not raise taxes during a second term. Whoever was in the White House next year would have to raise taxes to reduce the deficit.

He attacked Mr Reagan for the unfairness of his economic and social policies. Under this Administration the rich were benefiting at the expense of the poor. "The big boys have been picking your pockets to line their pockets," he declared.

Mondale's roots, page 12



Ticket to millions

Mr Michael Wittkowski, a 28-year-old printer from Chicago, holding the ticket that has won what is believed to be the world's largest single lottery prize - \$40m (£33m).

The prize, won in the Illinois state Lotto game, is not as high as the \$71.8m paid

by Spain's Christmas lottery, regarded as the world's richest. But that is divided among scores of winners.

Mr Wittkowski, photographed with Miss Fran Pappas, his girlfriend, said he "jumped up and screamed" when he realized he had won.

Three issues remain as Hongkong talks edge nearer accord

From David Somavia, Peking

The Anglo-Chinese talks on Hongkong are due to resume here today for what may be the last formal session before the announcement of an agreement.

British officials, in accordance with long standing policy, will make no comment on the substance of the talks, whose main outlines were disclosed in Hongkong recently by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary. However, it is generally agreed that an accord should be announced this month, to allow members of Parliament time to examine it before voting on it by the end of the year.

Although the Hongkong and British governments have gone through the motions of "consulting public opinion in Hongkong" in practice any protests from that quarter to prevent the nineteenth century treaties ceding Hongkong to Britain from being abrogated have been ruled out.

China has said it will let Hongkong retain its capitalist system, its British-style laws and "way of life" for 50 years after sovereignty over the territory is returned to Peking in 1997.

Many people in Hongkong have misgivings about the likelihood of a Chinese Government in these terms, but most agreed that in view of Britain's lack of interest in retaining sovereignty, that is probably the best settlement they will get.

Important matters not yet settled at the talks include nationality questions, civil aviation and land titles. Problems not fully settled at the formal negotiations, in which the British side is headed by Sir Richard Evans, the Ambassador, may be dealt with by a less formal working group of Chinese and British officials.

● LONDON: The unofficial members of Hongkong's Executive Council will travel to Britain for further consultations during the week beginning September 17, the Foreign Office announced last night (Henry Sunhope writes).

They will be accompanied by Sir Edward Youde, the Governor, on what could be their last such contact with the British Government before the Anglo-Chinese agreement on the colony's future is completed.

Chinese leftists jailed

From Our Own Correspondent, Peking

More than 20 people have been sentenced to long prison terms in the Chinese province of Henan for allegedly forming a leftist "counter-revolutionary clique".

Zhang Sanyi, a former post office employee, and two associates were accused of having persisted in leftist

activity in spite of having been disciplined for persecuting others during the Cultural Revolution. They were sentenced to 15 years.

All were indicted for forming a so-called "Chinese National United Front" with the object of overthrowing the Communist Party and seizing power.

EEC entry negotiations

Flexibility needed to save Spanish deal

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Spain's EEC entry negotiations could break down completely unless both sides show more flexibility, Mr Peter Barry, the Irish chairman of the 10 foreign ministers, said after Monday's fruitless negotiating round in Brussels.

The session has confirmed the pessimism in Madrid. All that could be agreed was technical-level contacts between the two sides to prepare for the next ministerial-level negotiations in a fortnight's time. These are now billed as decisive for the timetable of entry by Spain and Portugal on January 1, 1986.



Señor Moran: Talks could drag on.

Spain stuck rigidly on Monday to its previous position against swift dismantling of its industrial tariff barriers, while demanding easy access for its citrus fruits to the EEC.

Internal differences among the 10 on the other side prevented presentation of any EEC proposals on the twin problems posed by Spain's massive wine and olive oil production.

Señor Fernando Moran, the Spanish Foreign Minister,

interviewed afterwards on Madrid television, referred to the possibility of negotiations dragging on for seven or eight months more. But the negotiators would be no better then, he maintained, expressing hope that entry terms could still be settled before the year's end.

Señor Moran also referred to the crucial need for Spain's entry to be ratified next year by the French National Assembly while the Socialists still have a majority there. That effectively prevents Spain's Socialist Government from having any interest in delaying tactics.

As Britain, West Germany and the Netherlands faced Italy and Greece on Monday over setting provision limits on guaranteed olive oil prices, Madrid began to grasp how the threat of the budgetary problems affects entry prospects. Spanish wine and olive oil surpluses would only aggravate the problem.

Under pressure from the Mediterranean coast citrus fruit growers, responsible for Spain's leading agricultural export, Madrid kept up its demands on Monday that such products be exempted from the phased restrictions over 10 years on fruit and vegetables. These were agreed last October to placate the French and the Spaniards' claims in general terms to accept them. At the same time, however, Madrid demanded quotas or other import restrictions to protect its own dairy, meat, sugar and cereal producers from the EEC.

Even the advance Señor Moran had looked for on social benefits for Spain's immigrant workers was denied him by West Germany and the Benelux countries.

Colombo denies reports of rebel's death

From Donovan Malachuk, Colombo

Security forces in northern Sri Lanka and officials in Colombo yesterday denied reports in two morning newspapers that Velupillai Prabhakaran, the leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, one of the biggest rebel groups, had been killed.

His death had been reported in an encounter at sea in Monday afternoon in which the Navy claimed to have killed eight separatist rebels.

● CENSOR QUITS: Mr Douglas Liyanage, Secretary of the Ministry of State who was in charge of the media and functioned as chief censor of the newspapers, resigned yesterday. Mr Liyanage returned to Sri Lanka on Monday after visiting Israel where he gave an interview to the Jerusalem Post in which he was reported to have said that as Arab countries had embassies in Sri Lanka there was no reason why the Israelis should not have been permitted to establish an embassy section under the auspices of the American Embassy.

The government then announced that Mr Liyanage had sought permission to visit Europe and Kenya, which he left but had not revealed any intention of visiting Israel. The Government disassociated itself from the remarks attributed to Mr Liyanage.

Socialists plan new drive on apartheid

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Delegates from the Socialist International are taking part in a two-day conference in Arusha, Northern Tanzania, to discuss ways of increasing pressure against South African apartheid and of speeding up Namibia's attainment of independence.

President Nyerere of Tanzania opened the meeting yesterday. President Kaunda of Zambia and President Machel of Mozambique, and the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, Mr Robert Mugabe, were also present.

Among the European delegates are the Swedish Prime Minister, Mr Olof Palme and the Portuguese Prime Minister, Dr Mario Soares.

African frontline states and guerrilla groups want the European socialists to step up pressure against South Africa through sanctions.

Obote told of US concern

Nairobi - The US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Mr Chester Crocker, held discussions in Entebbe yesterday with President Milton Obote, and repeated American concern about human rights in Uganda. But he also expressed his country's sympathy for the problems facing the country.

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THE ARTS

Television

Sentimental allure

On television the facts are often less important than the manner in which they are communicated. It seems extraordinary that after half a century of film as the most vivid medium of mass communication the practitioners in the craft retain so much naivety about the way in which their messages are received and interpreted by the audience.

In S.O.E. (BBC 1), the start of an eight-week documentary series about the wartime Special Operations Executive who were charged with sabotage and subversion, the facts were extraordinary. The S.O.E. "provides the last of the big 'now it can be told' stories of World War II", according to the series promotion. "Now it can be told" is a cliché whose use robs the description of the power to tell us the truth behind the hacked phrase.

So, sadly, the programme presented the world of genuine spies in the over-used glamour of decades of espionage thrillers. "This was once the home of secret agents", announced the rich tones of the actor Michael Bryant over shots of S.O.E.'s Baker Street offices. We visited several creeper-clad country houses where the agents were trained, and the camera lingered over crossbow darts, daggers and exotic weaponry which would not have disgraced James Bond.

Black and white archive film was generously used, but dramatically-lit monotone images are now the province of the Ovale commercial and the nostalgia genre. We are forced to view them through a haze of re-created reality; they have acquired a sentimental allure and lost some of their truth.

There were tantalizing glimpses of the organization none the less; the roots of the James Bond myth were exposed as men enthusiastically demonstrated equipment or laconically discussed the risks they took. From their appearance it seemed that many of the interviewees would have been men in their twenties as they sat in Baker Street planning to mine the banks of the Danube or send parachutists into Poland. One department of S.O.E. was dismissed as having disappeared under its own paperwork, something which never happened in heroic John Mills movies.

No doubt later programmes in the series will evaluate S.O.E.'s work and take us past the early days of gentlemen learning fieldcraft from the Sandringham gamekeeper and black propaganda from Kim Philby. The organization's own propaganda, as falsely bright as an amateur dramatic society's *OklaHoma!*, seemed curiously genuine amid the archive film; the honesty of its intention to deceive looked truthful beside the unconscious deception of the rest of the programme.

Celia Brayfield

Concert

Revelling in space

LSO/Hickox
Albert Hall/Radio 3

Harold Acton once commented that most poetry ages but the poetry of John Whitman regenerative. The effect of that rejuvenation on Vaughan Williams was felt again on Monday night in an elating performance of the *Sea Symphony* with the London Symphony Orchestra and Chorus and the Woodburn Singers conducted by Richard Hickox.

It may not be the sort of work that one too readily turns to on record or even on the radio; the Albert Hall, though, revels in its space and its sentiments. "Now", as Whitman said, "my thought begins to span thee". Again one was struck by the

sheer skill of vocal writing which enables both solos and chorus to be thrillingly audible at high or low tide. And once more one was left wondering at the unembarrassed directness of response, the unfettered breadth in which the composer joins the poet in finding metaphysical momentum within the simplest of means.

As jolly-jack-tar music pipes in and out of passages of understated impressionism, Felicity Lott, standing for all the world like a ship's figure-head, pealed out her invocation to flags and ship-signals, and John Shirley-Quirk expressed in a strange, still half-voice the awe of that "vast similitude" conjured so potently by horns and pizzicato cello pulse.

Within and between the work's movements, Richard Hickox's skill at managing a large orchestral and choral body matched Vaughan Williams's own disposition of forces, even if the side-drum too often had a mind and an enthusiasm of his own. Momentum took precedence over majesty, playing down, without ever actually belittling, the odd moments of over-earnestness.

A rerun of John Tavener's 1968 *The Whale* was an only superficially apt piece of programming. For all its beguiling episodes and its confident handling of as many sound-effects as can be packed into and out of the orchestra, the hollow at its centre was cruelly revealed by such a juxtaposition, and its prodigality of notion shown as mere extravagance.

Hilary Finch

Peter Maxwell Davies, who makes one of his rare conducting appearances at tonight's Promenade Concert, is 50 this week and still striding off in new directions

interview by Paul Griffiths, photograph by Murray Job

Out of the labyrinth



"I'd rather get on with writing my music, which is something nobody else can do"

Tonight Peter Maxwell Davies goes into the Labyrinth, conducting the work he wrote last year for Neil Mackie to sing with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra. It is, on the face of it, another journey into the Orkneys. The words are again by George Mackay Brown, whose knuckle-hard island poetry has provided nearly all Davies's texts of the last dozen years. The theme is Orkadian; as in the symphonic *Black Pentecost* notoriously rejected by the LSO a few years ago, we are asked to consider the impact of technology on an ancient closeness to nature. The music, too, has that sombre, troubled beauty that Davies discovered in the northern isles. And, like much of his recent output, the piece had its first performance in Kirkwall, at last year's St Magnus Festival.

But, not for the first time in Davies's art, all is not quite as it seems. *Into the Labyrinth* belongs less with the Orkney songs of yesteryear than with the big abstract works that have followed the much-acclaimed premiere of his First Symphony in 1978: it is, indeed, the "middle movement" in a symphony of symphonies for chamber orchestra, falling between the Sinfonia Concertante introduced at last year's Proms and the Sinfonia Accademica heard in the Albert Hall just a couple of weeks ago. It is, as Davies is well aware, one of many recent steps he has taken away from his earlier close identification with Orkney.

"I think there's a danger, if you spend all your time in one place, of becoming insular in a bad way. I feel I need to be in touch with what other composers are thinking; just recently, for instance, I've been very interested and excited by Elliott Carter's music. And I also like very much to have contact with young composers, as I've had these last few years at Dartington and will have next year when I go to Harvard for a few months."

Clearly things have changed since the time when Davies would appear for the occasional concert, in London or abroad, and then head straight back to his Hoy cliff-top. He still does most of his composing there: Orkney has the obvious advantage of silence. But the need is not so pressing, perhaps because he has now discovered the self he went to Orkney to find. He has come down from the mountain, bringing with him works which, like the Sinfonia Concertante or the Sinfonia Accademica, have been widely hailed as more relaxed and approachable than his earlier music. I put it to him, though, that something like the *Eight Songs for a Mad King* is a lot easier to take in than the Sinfonia.

"Of course it is. What I've been trying to do recently is to conceal all the technical things, so that you can't see them in the score and probably can't hear them. I want the effect of something completely natural. That doesn't mean, of course, that there isn't an awful lot going on under the surface. It's like when you see a line in a late Matisse; it looks terribly easy, but it wouldn't be possible without an enormous amount of technique and experience. I

suppose it's just a matter of maturity."

Davies speaks unaffectedly enough to get away with talk of maturity and Matisse, even if such self-reflections were not thoroughly justified by his achievement at this stage in his career. The one subject he declines to discuss is the fact that he will be 50 on Saturday. He has turned down dozens of invitations for celebratory concerts, allowing only Radio 3 to mark the occasion by making him "This Week's Composer", which should certainly set the shaving mirrors jostling later this month.

Maybe one reason for his lack of interest in jubilees is that he prefers to be concerning himself with new works rather than old ones. His appearances as a conductor are now rather rare. "In the past I had to conduct my own music because there was nobody else to do it. But now there are other people: there's much more understanding of how this music should be played and conducted. And I'd

rather get on with writing my music, which is something nobody else can do."

The work he is writing at the moment is his Third Symphony, due for performance by the BBC Philharmonic under Edward Downes in the composer's home town of Manchester on February 19 next year. Two movements are finished, and the third is complete in sketch. "The first movement is a big allegro, and then the next two are both scherzos. I wanted to carry on with some of the ideas I had in the scherzo of the Second Symphony, which I think is the most successful movement in that work. But this time there are two scherzos, the second a shadow of the first, and much shorter. Then the finale will be a slow movement: I think you'll need it by that time."

Like *Into the Labyrinth* and its two companions, the new symphony moves away from the very active percussion involvement in earlier orchestral scores: it will be for a normal symphony orchestra

with timpani only. It is most unlikely, though, to be colourless. The Sinfonia Accademica showed what Davies can do with the most conventional resources, and a performance last year of his *Stone Lany* renewed his faith in his powers of orchestration after an unhappy premiere of that work. "It's amazing how something like that can hang over you. Then I heard the Chicago orchestra do it, and it was like spun silk."

After the symphony Davies's composing schedule is well planned. His long-awaited second large-scale opera *Resurrection*, turned down by Covent Garden, is due for performance at Darmstadt in 1986, and that year too Isaac Stern is booked to play a new Violin Concerto with Previn and the RPO. After that will come a Trumpet Concerto; there is also a commission from the London Sinfonia for a work involving children. And a Fourth Symphony? "That's probably four years away yet. But yes, I've already got a sniff of it."

Psacharopoulos, "but our audiences are interested in the process and know that if they come on opening night the production is not going to be what it is at the end of the week. That is why some people come to some plays twice - to see wonderful actors growing."

The festival has itself grown far beyond a distinguished revival house. In 1973 a cabaret theatre was inaugurated, in 1974 a Sunday Special Events series which has celebrated such artists as Kafka, Coward and Weill. In 1972 an experimental second company was founded to do new plays, and this year the company moved into its own theatre, the Extension. Williamstown commissioned Trevor Griffiths to write and direct his new play *Real Dreams*, which opened at the Extension last month. Saturday began readings of new plays started last year; this season started with a work by William Gibson, author of *Miracle Worker*.

Stars, rising featured players and newcomers are likely to appear anywhere, any time. Blythe Danner is seen in cabarets and special events as well as on the main stage; Christopher Reeve played the title role in the Extension's opening show, A. R. Gurney's *Richard Cory*. Geraldine Fitzgerald played the leading role in the first staged reading, and directed the second Extension show. Once known as a sleepy campus community - the home of the Ivy League's Williams College, where the festival is based - Williamstown, Massachusetts, has blossomed into one of the liveliest theatre towns in America.

Holly Hill

London theatre

Black Dog Tricycle

Reopening the daily refurbished Tricycle (decor by the stage designer Poppy Mitchell), this new piece by Barney Simon and the six members of the Johannesburg Market Theatre, has been seen here so far only at the Traverse in Edinburgh. Less moving than *Wozza Albert* (to say nothing of *Poppie Nongena*), it nevertheless manages to say things beyond the scope of both those shows - and, by building up a picture of the past of all the characters, black and white, over the years, it generates a human warmth that contrasts powerfully with its violent confrontations and seems to carry the seeds of hope.

Mostly confined to one role, all the actors address us in the first person. John Maolusi Ledwaba energetically sets the scene of the 1976 Soweto student protests. Kurt Eggelbitterly introduces himself as Cape Coloured. Neil McCarthy,

with the modest smile of the school prefect and victor ludo-rum, launches himself on an army career.

The picture, free of all stereotype, is of human animals shaped by a range of stimuli from suffering and humiliation to ambition, conditioning and a variety of ignorances. Most modestly, there is James Mithoba, whose crumpled, eager face is instantly touching, as a little school caretaker who finds himself appalled at his own unthinking aggression. So does Mr. McCarthy's character, which hits hard after his lusty, intensely convincing account of the near-sexual thrill of battle.

As Sarah Hemming noted in her review from Edinburgh, the play's origin as ensemble-written work has enriched the development and truth of the characters at the expense of the overall shape and sense of direction. Even over a 95-minute span, the structure of intercut monologues begins to fall apart.

Anthony Masters

Galleries

Harold Hitchcock Christopher Wood

There is no point in your going to the Royal Society of Arts to see the work of Harold Hitchcock, since the primarily loan show of his work there was on for only four days and is now off. However, it did offer a rare chance to catch up with this eccentric painter's work, and anyone who is further interested can generally find two or three examples at the Christopher Wood Gallery in Motcomb Street, which presented the larger show.

Hitchcock, curiously for a British painter, seems to be better known in America. He is 70 this year, and has been painting away in virtual isolation for most of his life, with an extraordinary consistency of style and vision. He was originally encouraged to paint by two artist uncles when he was a child, and had produced his first portrait at the age of nine and his first large-scale oil by the time he was 13. The most important external formative incident was his first visit to the National Gallery when he was 16, when he fell in love with the work of Claude, a passion still evident in his painting today. But as a child he seems to have lived largely in a Traherne-like world of ecstatic communion with nature, and that too is something he has never lost.

The paintings themselves are mostly large watercolours, but sometimes oils, and such is the richness and intricacy of Hitchcock's watercolour technique

that it is sometimes difficult at a distance, or in reproduction, to tell the two apart. They are all imaginary landscapes with strong symbolic overtones; some are given titles evoking Arthurian legend, but most of them are more generally titled, something like *A Woodland Foot* or *Landscape with White Horse*, and we are left to work out our own significances if we will. At first glance most of them look straightforward enough, suffused as they are with a misty grey-green light or a Palmeresque golden glow of Arcadian sunlight. But when you look more carefully you begin to see oddities: the occasional giant plant or pygmy person that suddenly challenges our sense of scale.

Indeed, the more you look, the more peculiar the paintings get. There are touches that seem almost naive, particularly in the small, rather awkward figures - except that we know from reproductions of Hitchcock's early work that he could paint the human figure with academic precision, if he wanted to, at the age of nine. And at least the technique is all of a piece: he is wholly master of his fantasy world, and if we are to enter it we can do so only on his terms. Some may well find it repellent, and undoubtedly there are moments, as in *Judy Geeson as Saint Cecilia*, when it trembles on the edge of kitsch. But there is no doubting the force and intensity of the vision, or the skill with which it is captured on canvas for us to love or hate.

John Russell Taylor

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Intriguing *Uncle Vanya*: Edward Herrmann, Blythe Danner

Theatre in the United States Back to the classics

Also in the first-night audiences were Richard Thomas and Marsha Mason, newly arrived to rehearse the next play, Tennessee Williams's *Unleash the Beast*.

"The first year we did very commercial plays like *Gigi* and *Time of the Cuckoo*", Mr. Psacharopoulos recalls, "but we also did Giraudoux's *Andromache*, and everybody liked it." The response encouraged the fledglings to mount *Saint Joan*, the highlight of the 1956 season. "So we shifted gradually to the more important American and European plays which the theatre became famous for." To date, the festival has mounted 238 productions of 179 plays, emphasizing Chekhov, Williams and Shaw, interspersed with Brecht, Rostand, Euripides, Ibsen, Turgenev, Molnar, Wilder, O'Neill, Weiss, Stoppard, Shepard and others.

"The second characteristic which distinguishes us", Mr. Psacharopoulos continues, "is the company of actors who have emerged - like Austin Pendleton, Christopher Reeve and Jill Clayburgh - from apprentices at the beginning of their careers, and those who have joined us for many seasons - like Blythe Danner, Frank Langella and Richard Chamberlain. Good people draw good people, and actors love to work with the best among their peers in great roles."

Both a boon and a problem to the theatre are its brief (one to two weeks) rehearsal and performance schedules. These enable tightly booked stars to come to Williamstown, but usually mean that character and ensemble development will still be in midstream on opening night. "The short rehearsal period is tough", admits Mr.

One of the far-comers when *Uncle Vanya* - starring Blythe Danner, Edward Herrmann and Austin Pendleton - played this year was the producer Norman Lear, who was so intrigued on opening night that he came back later in the week just to see how the performances had grown.

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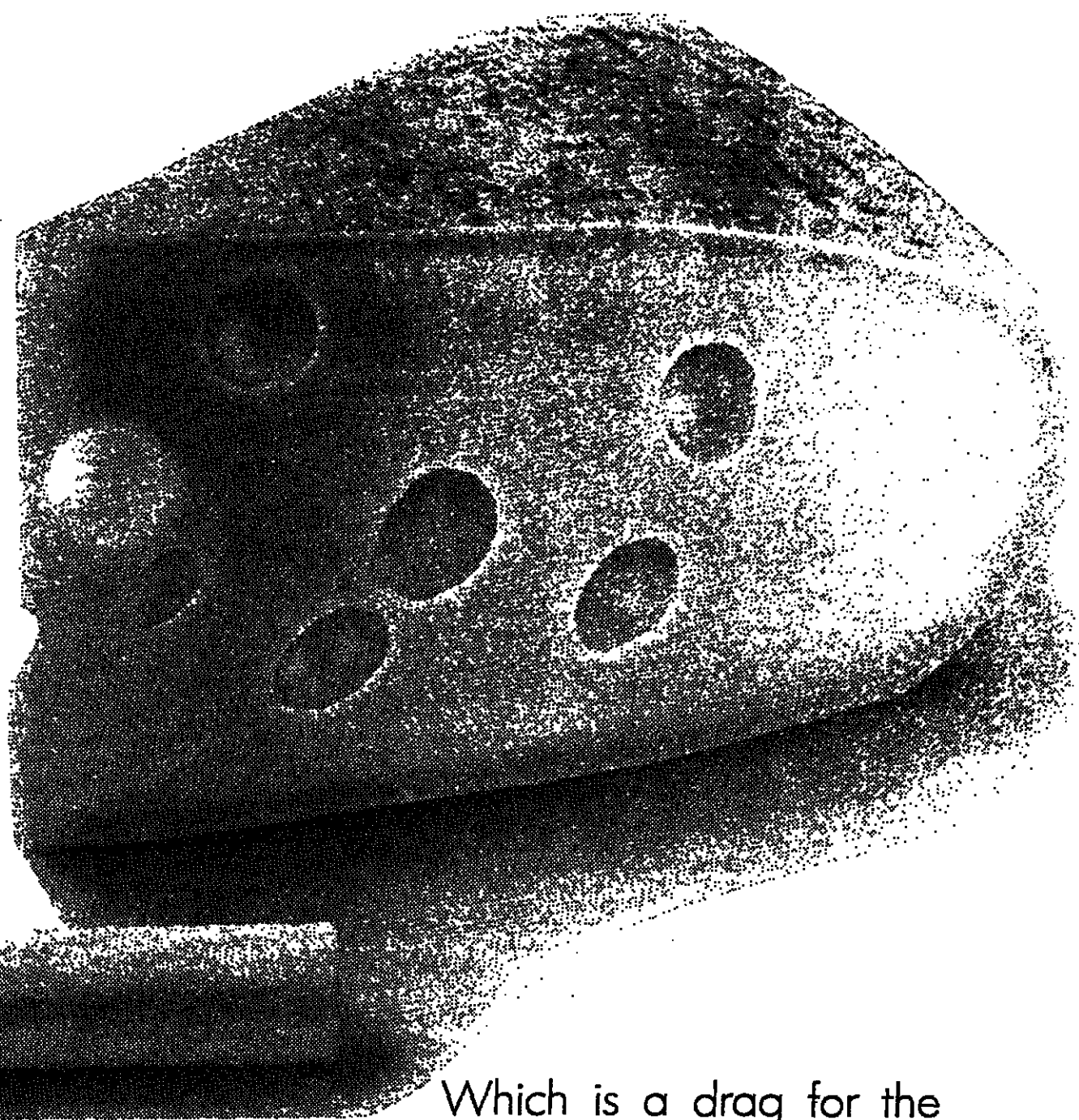
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SPECTRUM

2003: How the sex and joy drugs proved a hollow sham

Safe exultant pills promising higher highs and sexual thrills disappoint the sensation-seekers. The final part of Norman Macrae's vision of the future

The first drug crisis occurred in the Twentieth century when western governments and politicians responded with all the mistakes so typical of those last years of over-government. Heavy taxes had rightly long been placed on the traditional hallucinogens, alcohol, which was incompatible with driving a car, and the traditional tranquillizers, tobacco (whose long-term damage to health had been discovered only because it had existed for a long time). By contrast in 1960-90 opium-derivative drugs were not taxed, and were instead subject to erratic legislative prohibitions that did not work. The prohibitions were directed especially at pushers, the consequences of which should have been known from experience. During the 1920s there were attempts to prohibit alcohol in the same way. Predictably, organized crime then took over the market-place. Pushers became very nasty people, indeed, sometimes blackmailing their crazed clients to commit crimes for them, with guns blazing.

By 1985 the drug crisis could be cured only if tax systems replaced bans, or with scientific breakthroughs. Fortunately, the latter happened rather quickly. The hard-drug crisis of the late Twentieth century arose largely because the action of B-endorphin, the body's own endogenous morphine, was mimicked by heroin. B-endorphin is a chemical which regulates the sensitivity of the nervous system: when produced in quantity it suppresses the reactivity of the system. Heroin, therefore, could suppress pain and give a sensation of euphoric detachment from external stimuli. Problems of addiction arose because, when heroin is administered from without, the body steps producing its own endogenous morphine, which consistently heroin use is suddenly discontinued it takes some time for B-endorphin production to begin again, and in the meantime the nervous system becomes horribly hyper-reactive.

During the 1990s, the advance of elementary genetic engineering made possible the commercial production of B-endorphin. So heroin addiction (and its worst pains) could be effectively counteracted. Sensible governments then replaced bans with taxation systems - with the highest taxes on the addictive substances that did most harm (opium, gin, tobacco, and some of the drugs which were given free by state



health services in the early 1980s) and no taxes on endogenous morphines.

Commercial interests made the untaxed substances more and more palatable, so that alcohol consumption also virtually disappeared except for certain expensive wines. Today, Fale Altophin is imbedded in parties because it tastes nice and creates a more social atmosphere than gin, as well as being compatible with driving a motor car (and indeed compatible with doing practically anything, provided you check first on a scanner or have a periodical biofeedback session).

In 2003 advertisements began to appear on telecommuting terminals (TCs) proclaiming the imminent arrival of a new generation of genetically engineered compounds, such as recombinants which could help people to remember or forget IQ boosters which could make children much cleverer than their parents (perish the thought), and aphrodisiacs which could change the chemistry of sexual attraction.

Several leaders of the newly confident churches - which had prospered with the return to commune and village life - said that these drugs promised blasphemous powers and called for prohibitions (which would have created black markets). They and the drug pushers exaggerated their effect. Students, who thought the new memoratives and intelligence creators would help them to sail through exams, failed them instead.

A good memory is not one which holds everything that is poured into it. The sharpest mind is the one that has the happy facility of ignoring all irrelevances. Drugs which increase the rate of information-exchange between neurones can provide an immediate boost to IQ, but they work on all the neuronal systems within the brain, not just the ones that are involved in the actual business of thinking. A powerful intellect is not the gift of a hyperactive brain, although some ad hoc advantages and even aesthetic



pleasures can be derived from occasional use of these detraquillizers.

The new psychotropic drugs which created most stir in 2003-10 were the aphrodisiacs and other sexually exciting compounds, especially attractants and exultants. The most efficient attractant drugs are based on human pheromones, hormones secreted by the skin to signal the sex of the secretor, which sometimes assist in triggering sexual desire in others. When a child grows up in a normal household, and is equally fond of both parents, he or she is usually attracted to the opposite sex; that is how we perpetuate the race. When a boy

is too exclusively attached in childhood to his mother, he can become attuned to the wrong set of pheromones, that is the main cause of homosexuality, which can now often be "cured" if curing is considered desirable.

Perfumes supposedly containing pheromones were already being marketed in the 1980s, but they proved something of a disappointment to men and women who had hoped to be able to drive members of the opposite sex wild with desire. Pheromones convey information rather than transmit commands. Anointing oneself with concentrated pheromones typical of one's sex did have some effect in calling attention to oneself, but was not in itself a sufficient basis for the birth of an infatuation or arousal.

A greater utility has been found in anointing oneself with pheromones typical of the opposite sex, which has a marked effect in discouraging unwanted attentions - they are used by beautiful women to repel persistent men.

The second main category of aphrodisiacs, the exultant drugs, are rapidly metabolized hormones which trigger the physiological responses generally associated with surges of joy, sensations of triumph and sexual orgasm. Again, much was expected of these drugs by enthusiasts, although there was a hard fight before they were allowed on the market. The widely expressed fears of addiction cloaked a more deeply felt

moral objection to the availability of such drugs.

Once on the market, however, the boom in their faded quickly, for a predictable reason. Most people have always had available the means to induce orgasm in themselves.

In the end, the scientists' substitutes for the various imagined forms of amatory magic served to show what a hollow sham it usually was. There are still some people who see this as a failure of psychochemical science, or as a kind of tragedy. In fact it is welcome, for it conserves the real value of authentic human experiences. It reminds us that it is worth working hard to win pleasure, to achieve triumphs, to capture moments of joy and to make love.

Over the whole period of scientific advance from 1974 to 2024 we can take most comfort not from what we have done, but from what we have failed to do. We have failed to find ways to mechanize people. We have failed to rob them of their humanity. No matter what our continuing analyses of the working of the human brain may tell us, the power of self-determination - the freedom to be what we choose - cannot be taken away from us.

The author is deputy editor of The Economist. Extracted from The 2024 Report: A concise history of the future 1974-2024, published on September 6 by Sidgwick & Jackson, £9.95.

The life-swapping path to happiness

In 2022 nearly 10 per cent of Germans spent less than three months of the year in their own homes, and more than three per cent lived in more than six countries during the year, telecommuting from each to their ordinary job. Most people, however, prefer to put down firmer roots than that, and many now take expert advice on when to experiment in digging them up.

A typical example is the house swap for 10 months in 2018 between the Macfarlane family from the South Island of New Zealand and the Hirsch family from an open-area housing community just outside New Orleans. The 38-year-old mother in the Macfarlane family had recently been the breadwinner, telecommuting to the Tokyo bank for which she worked as an English-language loans officer. The 41-year-old, very house-proud, father had retired for the period 2012-2018 to be educator to the two children, now aged 13 and 15. Usually, both were going straight on to higher education, but would be doing this directly through the TC, and the father was no longer needed to aid them. Archie Macfarlane was therefore going to return to his old job as a TC salesman for custom-built goods.

As this was quite a well-paid job, the Macfarlanes' living standards would rise quite substantially when both parents were again teleworking. The family therefore arranged for one of the now-fashionable family TC conferences with psychoanalysts and lifestyle counsellors. The report was rather a shock.

It said the two Macfarlane teenagers were too self-centred and shy. Their outdoor recreations (golf, rock-climbing, angling, owning racing pigeons) were all too individualistic. The Macfarlane family played regularly in family two-ball four games, but in reality these games now irritated all of them. The children showed greatest

enjoyment when playing over-competitively with their parents against other families, but they did this only in games via the TC, such as duplicate bridge against other families, with the computer shuffling the cards.

The children would be happier if they lived near children of the same rather bright ability and age as themselves, and in a community where families played each other regularly in active games, such as informal four-person volleyball teams. Mr Macfarlane would also be happier if he could play

regularly in a tennis four with men of his own approximate ability. He would like to become more gregarious for a while. Mrs Macfarlane had shown by her answers that she would like a period enjoying various facilities not available in their part of New Zealand. For instance, she would like to be able to eat out occasionally at French restaurants. In addition, all four would be better-rounded people if they lived for a while in a less tidy house, and the children needed to be encouraged to engage in more horse-play because at present they were too neurotic about not scratching the furniture.

The counsellors suggested a house swap of at least 10 months. The swap the Macfarlanes eventually accepted was with the Hirsch family, who lived in an open-plan housing community near New Orleans. In these communities, people open up part of their homes so that others can use and share special facilities that individual households could not otherwise afford.

Examples are swimming pools, tennis courts, hobby equipment like photographic darkrooms, and lots of pay-TV subscriptions. These open-

house areas are often monitored by TV sensors, which virtually eliminates undesirable behaviour by visitors, since not only does the sensor invoice them automatically for any damage, but it can eventually cause their community club status to be downgraded, a more pragmatic penalty than any fine.

The Hirsches had reached a stage where both parents and both children, aged nine and 11, did not fit in with the community club very well. Joe Hirsch was a slightly scatter-brained researcher. He wanted to spend the next few months working hard through the ordinary TC on a project that could then become ripe for entrepreneurship, but was distracted by the constant noise from his four-a-side volleyball court and splashpool. For her part, Mrs Marjorie Hirsch complained "We are never going to teach our children the virtue of some tidiness so long as we live so communally."

The children themselves were threatening to be under-achievers: they needed a period of quiet work through the TC, with their mother as educator. Furthermore, most of the children in their immediate open-home area were slightly older than they, and the young Hirsches were not always welcome in the team games. They might recover their self-confidence in more isolationist pursuits for a while.

There were some difficulties over the swap. Mr Macfarlane drew attention on the video inventory to the fact that there was one small stain on one of his carpets while some of the Hirsches' seemed more stain than carpet. It is also true that neither family stayed in its new environment when the 10 months were up, although, significantly, each moved to a different house.

The Macfarlanes came back to New Zealand, but nearer a city. The Hirsches moved to California. Today both families belong to open-home area clubs,



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FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: Cartography

Drifting apart

Latest findings from NASA and, in this country, by the Royal Greenwich Observatory at Herstmonceux confirm that continental drift is dividing London and New York by one or two centimetres a year while Australia is moving from South America towards Hawaii.

"Map makers of the future will have to take note of even small movements", says Stuart Malin, head of the Department of Astronomy and Navigation at the National Maritime Museum. "Position finding on earth is improving daily, and with personal navigators which will use satellite radio signals, we will eventually know of positions within a few metres anywhere in the world."

X marks the spot

An historical twist means that the national grid used on Ordnance Survey maps is not the international Greenwich Meridian, whose centenary is being celebrated. One hundred years earlier, in 1784, General William Roy, who mapped the Highlands of Scotland after the 1745 Rebellion and who founded the OS, established a base line on Hounslow Heath (now Heathrow Airport) and with chain, rods and triangles measured through Greenwich to Dover and the French coast, which led to longitude zero. The Nineteenth century astronomer royal, Sir George Airy moved



Sir George Airy the old transit room to a new one 10 feet to the east. That became the international meridian, which is being marked with new plaques in several spots, accurate to within half a metre, from Sheffield Park station on the Bluebell Line in Sussex, to a line of cedar trees in the Lea Valley, Essex.

All at sea

Oil companies claim that a few metres make the difference between millions of pounds in the North Sea when they site drills and lay pipelines. Knowing exact sites is vital for navigation beacons - as well as for international offshore boundaries. During 10 days in February, Britain, Germany, Norway, Denmark and The Netherlands monitored all satellite recordings in an effort to establish the correct relative positions of platforms in the UK sector of the North Sea.

In position

Two remote Scottish isles, Sule Skerry and Stack Skerry, 50 kilometres west of the Orkneys, have a true cartographic position at last. They were incorrectly located on last century charts, and not checked again until this spring. Now the National Remote Sensing

Centre at the Royal Aircraft Establishment believes the isles can be accurately mapped to within 30 metres. Dr Alan Benny, research scientist, used four colour satellite images (which are the main source of remote sensing) to update the old surveys. He employs similar images to confirm movements of shifting sandbanks in the Bristol Channel and Gwynedd Sands. "The green colour image penetrates to 20 metres deep; in the future laser techniques might go deeper still."

Got it taped

Maps are at least nine months out of date - inconvenient for local authorities and utilities (gas boards, water boards) who rely on large scale maps - 50 and 25 inches to the mile. Research by OS found that the vast majority of public and business users expect to have computerized, digital maps by the end of the decade. These will be instantly updatable, as is the case this

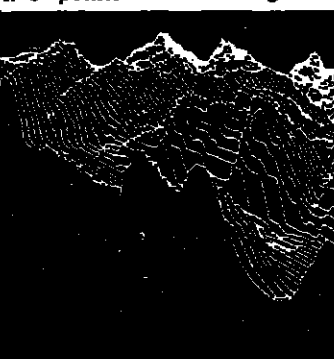


An electronic cursor

year in Birmingham, which is covered by some of the 20,000 OS maps (out of a total of 220,000) which have already been stored on computer. This is done by covering all line work into coordinates, which are transferred by digitizing on to electronic tape. So now in Birmingham surveyors can spend the morning on the ground, compiling details about urban changes, right down to house numbers. The data is then pencilled on to a plastic master version of a digitized map, and added to the database with an electronic cursor which defines new coordinates and stores them. The fresh information thus incorporated so that the instantly updated map can be displayed on a screen, or printed out with a computer drive plotter. Eventually all 70 area offices will have the equipment to follow suit.

Laser linewidth

Fastrack, produced by Laser-Scan Laboratories of Cambridge, can automatically computerize contours at least 15 times faster than they can be hand digitized. Series of lines are formed by linking consecutive points which are given



A laser map showing the contours of the mountains

Cancer study

Computerized cartography is becoming an active tool in analysing conditions from land use to health. A combination of techniques - field survey, aerial photography, airborne multispectral scanning and satellite imagery have produced 1 to 10,000 scale maps which reveal a significant change in the percentage of pasture that has become arable land in the Norfolk Broads in the past decade, according to the Natural Environment Research Council.

Monitoring undertaken by information within one database is also being used for an epidemiological study which is examining relationships between chemical trace elements and degenerative diseases such as cancers of the digestive tract in North-east Scotland. Details of methods are explained in the NERC's report on the Thematic Information Services, which incorporates the Experimental Cartography Unit.

Ship shape

Mediterranean sea charts flourished from the Thirteenth century with an accuracy unknown on land maps (which were mostly produced by monks). Research by Tony Campbell of the British Library Map Library, to be published next year in the History of Cartography (Chicago University Press) reveals that the Mediterranean map industry was "extraordinarily correct and up to date. The expected corruption of place names that comes with copies, does not occur. Each chart shows successive updates, with an average of 1500 names. Bilboa appears first in 1339, 39 years after it was founded, and Livorno in 1426 when it became politically significant. The maps were sometimes produced by sailors, whose voyages depended on precision, but we have not unearthed exactly how this was achieved."

Ann Hills

moreover... Miles Kingston

another trap for an ignoramus like me. It was nice to find Dr. M. Kingston rhyming with strain, as until now I have pronounced it French-style. Haiti rhymes with Katie, and not with graffiti. Chopin rhymes with bacon, until I realized that the Americans actually stress the latter on the third syllable, so that it comes out as Missa Lenny.

But these are all one-offs. It is when you come to the different vowels that you start getting into trouble, and into really deep non-rhyming water. Take *doil* and *shawl*, for instance. I can't believe there is anywhere in the British Isles where those two would rhyme (though *Reprimand* and *understand* would rhyme better up north than down south), or indeed *alcohol* and *waterfall*, yet I can see that with an American drawl "dahl" and "shahl" would more

or less rhyme. The same goes for *calin* and *Toni*, *otter* and *water*. Garry and Mary and even *quad* and *lacadé*, although I'm a little worried about *pond* and *spawnd*.

The lesson seems to be that where we differentiate between vowels, the Americans often bring them together into a different but identical sound. This doesn't explain, however, the presence of Thomas on two different lists. On one he rhymes with *impassé*, *Madras*, *en masse* and *Texas*. Does this mean that Cahn thinks Texas rhymes with *promise*? Hmmmm...

Don't get me wrong. Most of the words rhyme perfectly well anywhere between California and Aberdeen. It's just that when you get one list of rhymes containing all the following - *Iran*, *Yvonne*, *salon*, *upon*, *baton*, *peccan*, *upon*, *chiffon* and *Tucson* - well, you realize that there are differences between the UK and the USA that the best song in the world can't cover up.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 437)

ACROSS	1 Snobbish (6)	12 Re-equip (5)	18 Attack (5)
2 Wall recess (6)	13 Sicilian volcano (4)	19 Blackboard support (5)	20 Blatantly (5)
3 Many stored (8)	14 Yucatan people (4)	21 About (5)	22 Place of right (4)
4 Credit extension (4,4)	15 Great distance (4)	23 Dure (4)	
5 Bridge river (3)			
6 Imaginative dream (6,2,3)			
7 Fish ovary (3)			
8 Response (8)			
9 Valuer (8)			
10 Unoccupied (4)			
11 Leisurely walk (6)			
12 Distinct (6)			
DOWN			
1 Employed (4)			
2 Christmas show (9)			
3 Crude person (5)			
4 Quarrel (5)			
5 Apple centre (4)			
6 View (5)			
7 Merry Widow composer (5)			
8 Alto violin (5)			
9 Solution To No 436			
ACROSS: 1 Scenic 5 Moan 8 Dues 9 Adviser 11 Imitable 13 Fuss 15 Administrator 17 Ally 18 Kalehary 21 Aircrew 22 Bugle 23 Bat 24 Nodist			
DOWN: 2 Casti 3 Nut 4 Charles Darwin 5 Move 6 Assault 7 Addis Ababa 10 Restrained 12 Aunt 14 Aria 16 Malaria 19 Aegis 20 Trot 22 Bid			

WEDNESDAY PAGE

Even seaweed can be sweet in Ireland

Theodora FitzGibbon, cookery editor of the Irish Times and author of the immensely successful *A Taste of Ireland* series of cook books, is the first of this summer's four guest columnists all of whom have new books out soon. Irish Traditional Food will be published by Pan on Friday, September 7, price £2.50.

GUEST COOK



Theodora FitzGibbon

Most Irish people have a very sweet tooth and will cheerfully spend hours making elaborate puddings and cakes for the delectation of themselves and their families.

Many puddings were of the boiled variety which simmered over the fire and were a delicious warming meal in the hard days of winter. However, there are many lighter sweet dishes, some made with the vitamin-giving carrageen which is in fact a seaweed, but when well treated sets in a light jelly. Honey, especially the lovely heather honey, is also used with all kinds of fruit and with eggs.

Irish drinks such as Guinness and liqueurs are used as flavouring and excellent they are, not only in puddings but also in some cakes.

Many of these old traditional dishes I have gathered together and used in my new book, from which this is a selection.

Blackcap pudding which in Irish is *Murag sitha dubha*, is an old-fashioned pudding which was originally made with black raspberries, a very dark-red variety hardly ever seen these days except in some gardens. Nowadays it is usually made, either with blackcurrants or blackberries.

Blackcap pudding
Serves four to six
½ tablespoon butter

About 110g (4oz) blackcurrants or blackberries
Squeeze of lemon juice

2 rounded tablespoons sugar, or to taste
140g (5oz) fresh breadcrumbs

85g (3oz) flour
2 large eggs, beaten
300ml (½ pint) milk

Butter a one-litre (two pint) basin. Put the topped and tailed blackcurrants or picked-over blackberries in a small saucepan with the lemon juice and half the sugar, then cook gently for about five minutes. Pour into the pudding basin.

Sift the flour into a bowl, add the breadcrumbs, the remaining sugar and milk. Make a well in the middle, add the beaten eggs and mix.

Finally add the milk gradually and beat well. Leave to stand for about 15 minutes. Pour this over the fruit, cover and tie down, then steam over boiling water for 2-2½ hours. Turn out by reversing the basin on to a warmed dish so that the "black cap" covers the pudding. Serve with whipped cream.

Pear sponge pudding - in Irish it is *Gigé spinnise le piorra*. It is a very light cake-like pudding which can be eaten warm or cold. Cinnamon can be used without the juice, but will not give such a fresh flavour.

Pear sponge pudding
Serves four to six
110g (4oz) butter

110g (4oz) sugar
2 eggs
450g (1lb) ripe pears

110g (4oz) sifted self-raising flour
Whipped cream to decorate

Cream the butter and sugar until light, then add the eggs, one at a time, beating each one in well. Peel, core and slice the pears just before folding in the sifted flour to the butter mixture (if left too long the pears will discolour unless sprinkled with lemon juice). Stir in the sliced pears.

Line a 7½in (20cm) cake tin, preferably one with a removable bottom. Spoon in the mixture. Bake in a preheated moderate oven at 375°F (190°C, gas 5) for 30-40 minutes or until a skewer inserted comes out clean. Lift out and transfer to a serving dish and decorate with whipped cream.

Irish Mist cream - *Uachtar Irish Mist* - is like a cold soufflé and delicious. Irish Mist is a whiskey-based liqueur flavoured with herbs and sweetened with honey. It is available in most off-licences.

Irish Mist Cream
Serves about 6
800ml (1 pint) milk, heated

1 tablespoon powdered gelatine
4 eggs, separated

2 heaped tablespoons caster sugar
2 tablespoons whipped cream
2 tablespoons Irish Mist

Put the warm milk and gelatine into the top of a double boiler over hot water. Beat the egg yolks and add them with the sugar. Whisk until the mixture thickens. On no account let it boil. Beat the egg whites stiffly. When the mixture is cool, fold in the whipped cream, then the egg whites and finally the Irish Mist. Wet a mould, and tie a 3in (7.5cm) collar of paper around. Pour in the mixture and chill until set.

Honey mousse - *Cár meala*

is a very old dish which needs to be made the same day as it is to be eaten. It not use 2 teaspoons cornflour with the egg yolks, but this rather takes away from the "wild" honey taste. If it is left longer, all that will happen is that a little honey will collect at the bottom of the dish.

Honey mousse
Serves four
450g (1lb) clear honey

4 eggs, separated

To make this for more people, add 1 egg per person and 4oz (100g) honey. If the honey is "set", that is, thick, warm it up first to liquefy, but cool before using.

Separate the eggs and beat them well with the honey. Put into either a basin over a saucepan of hot water or use a double boiler. Keep stirring all the time until the mixture thickens like custard. Take off the heat and cool.

Meanwhile, whisk the egg whites until stiff and then fold the yolks into the yolk and honey mixture. Pour into individual glasses, chill and serve the same day.

Honey and lemon carrageen cream - *Uachtar meala is liomóide*. This is delightful and do try it. The carrageen already prepared for use can be bought at most health shops.

Honey and lemon carrageen cream
Serves four to six
¼ cup (120 ml) 4 fl. oz. volume measure tightly packed carrageen

2 heaped teaspoons honey
Juice and finely grated rind of 1 lemon

1 egg white, stiffly beaten
180 ml (¾ pint) double cream, whipped

Soak the carrageen in hot water to cover for about 10 minutes, then drain, discarding the liquid. Put it into 1 pint (600ml) fresh cold water with the honey, lemon juice, and grated rind. Bring to the boil and simmer for 25-30 minutes. Strain and discard the carrageen and lemon rind. Cool.

Meanwhile combine the stiffly beaten egg white and the whipped cream, then gently fold into the carrageen liquid. Pour into a wetted mould, or individual cups and chill to set.

Carrot and raisin cake - *Ciste risini agus meacan* - is a spicy country cake which also makes a good sweet dish, especially spread with cream cheese.

Carrot and raisin cake
Makes 1 cake
170 g (6 oz) wholemeal flour, or a mixture, half and half with white

2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
Pinch of mace

2 rounded tablespoons seedless raisins
2 eggs

110 g (4 oz) grated carrot
Grated rind of half an orange

2 tablespoons orange juice
110 g (4 oz) butter

140 g (5 oz) brown sugar
A pinch of salt

First prepare a 1 lb. (450g) loaf tin by greasing it and lining the bottom with a piece of greaseproof paper. Preheat the oven to moderate (180°/350°F, gas mark 4). Sift the flour(s) with the baking powder, cinnamon, and mace, then reserve.

Mix the raisins, grated carrot, orange rind and juice. In another bowl cream the butter and sugar and when light, add the beaten eggs, a little at a time, using a wooden spoon.

Finally combine with the flour and carrot mixture and mix together very well. Put into the prepared tin and bake in the centre of the oven for 40-60 minutes. After removing from the oven leave in the tin for 15 minutes to cool before turning it out on to a wire rack.

This is a good moist cake and keeps well in a tin. If liked the top can be spread with mashed cream cheese, or a mixture with cottage cheese; alternatively, you can slice the cake in half and spread the cheese inside.

The Times Cook, Shona Crawford-Poole, will be back on October 3.

Laurie Taylor, right, discovers Caroline Blackwood's bond with the anti-cruise protesters

Symbolic strength of the women of peace without power



Caroline Blackwood: Strong feelings about the Greenham Common women and Bernard Levin's comments

I knew that at some stage we would have to tackle Bernard Levin. The lady at Heinemann had warned me about Caroline Blackwood's strong feelings on the subject. Perhaps if the interview had been about her elegant and much-praised novels, *The Stepdaughter* or *Great Granny Webster*, it might have been avoidable; but as I'd climbed to her top-floor flat in Redcliffe Square specifically to discuss her impressions of Greenham Common the very matter which had absorbed Levin - it seemed inevitable.

What had provoked Mr Levin was a report alleging that Caroline Blackwood had been "shocked and appalled," indeed, "had never seen something so unpleasant" as a busload of Greenham Common women who had pulled down their trousers and displayed their buttocks to the women protesting outside the gates. Levin's feigned outrage at this insult to Ms Blackwood, his ironic rush to her defence, had been nicely helped along by the lady's aristocratic lineage: "A nobly-born lady, no less than the sister of the Marquess of Dufferin, and not only of Dufferin, but of Ava to boot, was mortally insulted at Greenham Common."

I dropped any idea of quickly clearing the air when I sensed her nervousness about the interview. Even before reaching her upstairs flat we'd had a slightly embarrassing conversation about who should carry up the coffee from the lower floor, and by time we were seated her anxiety had so infected me that I was able to manage nothing more personal than: "How did you start writing?"

"As a journalist, I worked for *Encounter* when Stephen Spender was the editor. I wrote a piece on the Beatniks. That was my first piece."

I quoted her dismissive epitaph on the movement: "No one in the future, when filling in an official form, will ever be aware that they have never been a Beatnik."

"That sounds very accomplished for a first piece. Had you been practising secretly?"

"No. I always knew I was a writer. But I hadn't got any proof of it. Sounds rather stupid, I suppose. But I always knew that when I was older I would write. But I didn't put things in drawers as some writers do. I just started when I started."

I wondered if her brittle staccato style was prompted more by aristocratic disdain than nervousness. But there was no doubt that she was still sitting quite precariously on the edge of her chair.

"And you still do journalism alongside your novels?"

"Yes, because it brings in more material for fiction. Because otherwise I would just sit in my house and know about the children and the people who come to the house."

Although her three children still lived with her in Redcliffe Square, she made her life sound more settled and domestic than her biography allowed. She had been married three times - to painter Lucien Freud, Israel Cizovitz the musician, and finally to poet Robert Lowell, who after a romance and marriage punctuated by bouts of madness, left her a widow in 1977. It all sounded tempestuous enough to provide material for a dozen novels.

"And it was a commission for an article which took you out to Greenham?"

"Yes. But once I got there, I found the material was too long for an article. Perhaps her previous writing, which so often focused on single characters in *extremis*, and on domestic isolation, hardly prepared the reader for her present book. Was she an active feminist?"

"No, I'm a sympathizer. Like all women have to be sympathizers."

She is not involved in the nuclear disarmament movement, but was impressed strongly by Greenham. Her book is very sympathetic.

"Yes, I hadn't taken it in. When you hear they're camping you somehow get an image of Boy Scout camps, and that doesn't sound so bad, does it? I couldn't believe that pile of refuse was the camp."

"You tried living there yourself?"

"It was not easy to imagine this tall refined lady at ease under a polythene sheet in the Berkshire woods."

"I stayed a few nights. But I couldn't manage. There is really the most extraordinary fortitude. Those nights. Not getting to sleep at all. To wake up to another day of freezing discomfort and evictions."

Certainly, *On the Perimeter* is a remarkably moving account of the hardships, insults and monotony endured by the Greenham women, but it is also strangely light on

argument. We hear little or nothing from the author or her subjects about the capacity of cruise missiles, the likelihood of their use as first-strike weapons, their possible place in disarmament negotiations.

"I deliberately decided not to. Those books about the bomb - you can hardly read them - the whole thing becomes so dehumanized." But wasn't that playing into the hands of those who write off the Greenham protest as a purely emotional response?

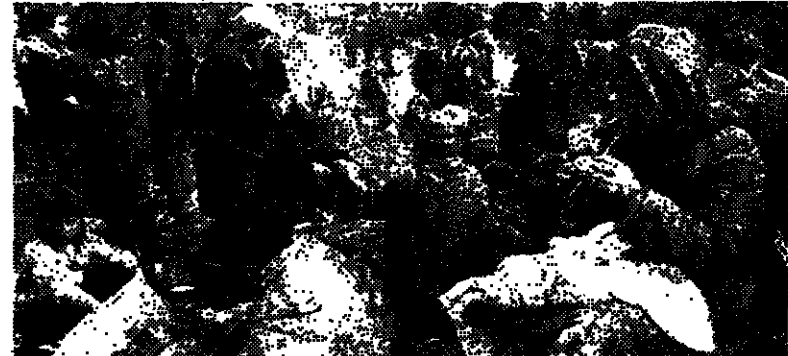
"Of course it's an emotional position. But it's one shared by a lot of women. It's just the terrible fear that there could be an accident. It's the anxiety about children. This fear

of an accident is what women deal with all day long: the child nearly having an accident. Women are more preoccupied by that. The actual job of bringing up a small child is one long near-accident."

"I can understand people thinking it's misguided," she admitted, finding a mislaid coffee pot. "That's a rather useless thing, that it doesn't change a thing. But perhaps women can only do things symbolically. People with no power have to do it symbolically."

At Greenham she was certainly fascinated by the juxtaposition of the military and the idealistic women, and the irate members of RAGE (Ratpacers against Greenham Encampments)?

"There was always something



A piper plays at the peace protesters' camp

MEL CALMAN'S AFFAIRS OF THE HEART

Finally I've joined those boring fitness fanatics

I'm HEARTILY SICK of all this Health Talk...



The story so far: Mel, a middle-aged cartoonist meets a young doctor who tells him he has had a minor heart attack and must reduce his weight, his worries and his cholesterol level. Five months later, Mel has lost seven pounds and can walk to the bathroom without getting out of breath. Now read on.

Today I looked at myself in the bathroom mirror and wondered who that slim man was standing there. I will not say he looked like Robert Redford but at least he no longer looked like Robert Morley's understudy.

Some sunny days when I am walking along, feeling lighter, (after all, I am no longer carrying that large parcel of fat around), I must confess I do feel better. I never thought I'd ever relish feeling healthier.

All my life I have carefully despised people who wanted to be fit. At school the most boring boys were the FIT ones. All my best friends were the unfit ones - the ones you knew were secretly sapping their strength.

I confess I do feel slightly superior and virtuous as I wave the sugar away and say NO to the pudding trolley, although I still look at it wistfully. The occasional treats now seem so wicked and twice as enjoyable as they used to be. The flavour of sin has been added to ice-cream.

The major difference between my present regime and any past attempts to reduce weight is that I feel my life depends on it, and that, as Doctor Johnson probably said, concentrates the diet wonderfully.

I mean, life is difficult, confusing, frustrating and chaotic, but what would I do without it? Death must be terribly boring - especially on Saturday

nights. And apart from my family and friends, I'd miss all the aggravations of trying to please editors.

I would also miss looking at women. Thank God there is no cholesterol in women. At least he got something right (What he was doing putting cholesterol into ice-cream and chocolate, I'll never know. He should have put it into something boring like coal dust).

I recently re-read some wise words by Professor Nixon, who knows a thing or two about hearts, in a book called *The BMA Book of Executive Health*. Ironically enough, I read the book some five years ago because I had to illustrate it. Needless to say, I ignored the message of the words. I did not think they applied to me.

All that stuff about fatigue, tension, diet, relaxation and sleep applied to executives, not cartoonists. I was far too lazy, I thought, to suffer from stress and over-work. Looking back I now recognize what Professor Nixon calls the danger signs: a

cycle of fatigue and a consequent need to do more to prove to yourself that you can cope with your problems.

It is a bit like driving through a red light - if you don't hit anything you are tempted to go on doing it. Other people have accidents, not you. Other people have heart attacks, not me.

So I have discovered that I am incredibly mortal. I am not protected by some special magic. My arteries are not designed to be abused. For all I know, they are not designed at all - just sort of there, all tangled up.

What I am having (very reluctantly) to come to terms with is that I am a body as well as a mind. I have to listen to, and respect my body, or else it will sabotage me. It is no use having some intelligence (what intelligence, you ask?) if I am not going to use it to try to live sensibly. Half a roll is better than none at all, I suppose. Even if the half a roll is spread with polyunsaturated margarine instead of butter.

FIRST PERSON

Ludmila, the critic with a crisis

They came from all over the world - Russia, Poland, Romania, Brazil, Canada, the United States - for the Edinburgh Festival. Eighteen young critics from a variety of different newspapers and magazines assembled for the first seminar of the International Association of Theatre Critics to be held in Britain. Under the sponsorship of the British Council.

On that first Sunday night, they stared blankly at the Fringe programme in search of guidance. The Fringe is one of the most confusing theatre events to be confronted with. What they had to do, we explained, was to pick for themselves what they wanted to see and compare notes afterwards.

It was clear that the Eastern block, used to timetables from which there could be no deviation, found this galaxy of marginal theatre overwhelming. By the time the Traverse theatre had given them a reception, I had been appointed general ticket agent.

"Take me to your Leader", said Ludmila, the Romanian delegate, standing four-square in front of the Traverse's press officer. This, I gathered, meant their artistic director, Peter Lichtenfels. She wanted an interview with Susannah York before her one-woman show of *La Voix Humaine*. This would not be possible, she was told.

"All right, then, after the show." There was no arguing with her, rooted there immovably. Ludmila was determined to interview everyone in Edinburgh, and she very nearly did.

During the week, apart from a spat between the French delegate and the Russian over the South African political play, *Black Dog*, there were no international confrontations. Late at night, after the midnight shows, they would gather over bottles of wine for discussion into the early hours.

By the fourth day, the delegates were experienced Fringe hands. The East German had located productions of Brecht, the Russians their Gorki, the French their Rostand and the Americans homed in on *The Hot Report*. Ludmila, who was writing a book on Samuel Beckett, took in all his shows, and was whisked off to dinner by a select band of Beckett groupies, including the publisher John Calder.

So it came to the last midnight show and early hours talk session. The delegates, who had been diverging in various directions, assembling for a final drink.

"Mrs Clare, I have some

questions you must answer," said Ludmila. She gave me a written sheet. I am puzzling over it now: "What are the unsolved creative problems facing the young director, critic, actor, playwright and would you please to try presenting a panorama of today in theatre in your country?" A good question, Ludmila, but I am beginning to run out of paper.

Clare Colvin

Correction
The author of Friday's First Person article on noisy dusters was Vincent Brown, not Vincent Brown, as published.

WHO sold more business micros in Europe last year than any other manufacturer bar Apple and IBM?

TA

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THE TIMES DIARY

Rubbing shoulders

The Queen recently dispensed with the services of the Royal Medical Household, and sought the treatment of a "healer" in a basement clinic in the Marylebone Road in London. The Queen, who had severely strained her shoulder by chopping logs at Balmoral, visited "pain therapist" Kay Kierman of the "Bluestone Clinic" on the recommendation of Princess Margaret. Indeed the princess is such a regular there that one wall is adorned with a signed photograph of her: "For Kay - Margaret." The Queen's injury was cured with two 90-minute sessions on a "Pulsed Electro-Magnetic Energy" machine.

Miss Kierman does not know when the Queen will be in next. The Royal patronage is revealed in the first By Appointment book - *The Royal Shopping Guide* by Nina Grunfeld, out from Pan next month.

Bananas

From now on firms on a NUM blacklist of strike-breakers, passed to Glasgow District Council, will be barred from tendering for contracts with the council. Opposition councillors, who are to investigate the ban's legality, say the move could lead to lay-offs in several local haulage firms. The good councillors' struggle for ideological purity goes further: it wants Glasgow market traders, who lease council stalls, to sign new contracts preventing the sale of South African fruit. Cruisers for a bruise?

Labour's left does not need to work at splitting the right. Last night Roy Hattersley and Peter Shore held separate TUC conference meetings. One started at 5.15, the other at 5.30.

Another tune

The New Statesman may be dull, but never predictable. Reporting on the Edinburgh Festival this week, Angus Calder says of the Scottish Opera's performance of *Orion*: "...it's well sung, the sets and staging are delightful and it's full of laughs. A pity there were so many empty seats." His colleague Andrew Clements certainly seems to have filled one: for on the same page, he says of *Orion*: "It proved to be a bore from beginning to end, without a note of memorable music..."

Post haste

As a local author with a new novel about to be published, Don Bannister seemed the ideal candidate to address the be-hatted ladies at the Yorkshire Post's literary dinner next week. Just as Bannister was smacking his lips, the paper rang. After "looking through" his book, *The Summer Boy*, his invitation was off. It was the sex and language used in the book, said the Yorkshire Post. The fact that the womanizing hero in the tale of "young manhood in a northern town" was a journalist had, I am sure, no bearing on their decision.

Lock-in

Those moderate union men left at Brighton will be checking anxiously that Roy Grantham, right-wing leader of the clerical workers' union, Apex, is safely in the hall to add his voice. I am told that in April, as Apex moved leftward at its Scarborough conference, the bolt on the door of Grantham's lavatory did not. The afternoon's debate rambled on with Grantham left jammed in the gents.

BARRY FANTONI



"There's a rumour he's offering them a million pounds each to go back."

Modest sum

Readable though it is, no one has compared Jeffrey Archer's novel *First Among Equals* with the works of Evelyn Waugh or Paul Scott. No one except Archer, that is. Boasting of selling the novel's television rights to Granada for £1m, he recently confided: "But I won't be too interested in the money if they can give me a production like *Brideshead Revisited* or the *Roy Quarter*."

Close friends

"Hitler would have been proud of you lot", electricians' leader-elect Eric Hammond shouted at delegates who barracked him on Monday for his denunciation of the TUC line on the miners' strike. He is less forthright about the four "heavies" who now shadow his every step in Brighton. "It's a rough business", he says. "We want to avoid incidents and it's easier to have people to guide you away." The four protest: "We're just friends." No one calls them bodyguards, but with enemies like him, Hammond may need friends like them.

PHS

A minimum wage is not enough

by Frank Field

Poor old Eleanor Rathbone. Not only has her portrait been absent-mindedly hung in the sports section of the National Portrait Gallery, but the idea she campaigned for all her life books like being overrun.

Born to a prosperous merchant family, she spent practically all her energy winning the introduction of family allowances (now child benefits) in order to combat the appalling child poverty she had seen at first hand in Merseyside. Her campaign was also aimed at ensuring that the support of workers' children did not become part of wage negotiations and, for good measure, guaranteeing a regular weekly income to mothers.

Now all the talk is of scrapping child benefits and of a campaign for a national minimum wage which assumes all workers have two children. If the redoubtable fighter could step off the National Portrait Gallery's wall and journey to Brighton, what would she have to say to the trade unionists due to debate the minimum wage at the Trades Union Congress today?

Until now, most campaigners have lobbied for a wage at around two-thirds average earnings, or around £100 a week. It has been set at this level to ensure that a family with two children has an income above the government-defined poverty line. But this approach will not abolish family poverty, and it will have considerable economic consequences.

Demands for a minimum wage calculated on the needs of a husband, wife and two children are all too reminiscent of the campaign for a "family wage". This assumed that men did the work and that women stayed at home, or that if they had earnings, they were of little importance to the woman or the household.

To counter this Eleanor Rathbone had campaigned for a minimum wage calculated on the needs of a two-adult household, reflecting a feminist insistence that the needs of children should be met not from the wage system, but from the nation as a whole in the form of family allowance payments. This approach makes a dramatic difference to the level of a minimum wage.

The feminist argument for a statutory minimum wage with children's needs separately covered by social security payments brings a minimum wage nearer political reality. It is also an approach suggested by the TUC itself in a recent publication on low pay.

Without any changes in child benefit payments the minimum wage demand is £100 a week at 1982 prices, and therefore much higher now. With children's needs covered by child benefit the minimum wage demand falls to £75 per week.

The higher statutory minimum

wage has the drawback that it increases employers' costs. If implemented without a programme of compensatory measures, it will lead to significant increases in unemployment and a big jump in the rate of inflation. I calculate that the higher minimum wage target could result in a loss of more than 400,000 women's jobs, a 4.4 per cent rise in the total wage bill together with a 2 to 2.5 per cent rise in prices.

The largest increase in unemployment and wages bills will be felt in those industries employing large numbers of low-paid - often women - workers. Thus women's wages overall will rise by over 14 per cent, and by much greater amounts in a few industries. Likewise, price increases will be concentrated in low-paid, labour-intensive industries.

These potential dangers are not an argument for scrapping a minimum wage strategy. Large numbers of workers still earn appallingly low pay. 240,000, for example, earned less than the government poverty line in 1982 and these wage earners were responsible for 680,000 people, many of them children. These hazards illustrate that any minimum wage strategy must be seen as part of a total package of economic regeneration, introduced over a reasonable period of time, and

accompanied by specific investment and training initiatives.

These accompanying measures are also essential if the minimum wage was introduced along with major increases in child benefit. But this wage and benefit approach has the advantage of reducing the negative impact on the economy - both in terms of employment and prices. A minimum wage accompanied by a major increase in child benefit will abolish the worst aspects of child poverty as we know it today, while bringing about a major transfer of income to all women.

Around 800,000 women in full-time work would gain pay increases, as would many part-time workers, and this dual approach would ensure that all women with children gain a major increase in their guaranteed weekly income.

Most current campaigns have confused the need for a weapon to eliminate family poverty with one which ensures that all workers receive a decent income to reflect their value and dignity as workers. Accepting the feminist argument helps to make this distinction clear, and helps to protect the position of women workers, while leaving it clear to begin a second round in the campaign for a higher minimum wage.

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The author is Labour MP for Birkenhead.

Walter Mondale's "micropolitics" have brought him a long way but may stop him reaching the

White House in November. Sidney Blumenthal traces his rise through the Democratic ranks



Links in the Democratic chain: Hubert Humphrey with then President Carter and favourite son Mondale; In full swing as vice president

The masked man from Minnesota

On the eve of the Democratic convention Walter Mondale revisited his childhood home, Elmore, Minnesota, population 882. He had left as a poor preacher's kid; he returned in glory, accompanied by the submachine-gun toting secret service, a travelling carnival of reporters, and a radiant Geraldine Ferraro. Yet he insists he has remained the same, someone whose past is plainly displayed in the present. "What you see is what you get", he has informed rallies across the country.

But what do you see? A mostly inexpressive man in a grey suit, whose closest friends in the Senate had to learn the most elementary details of his personal life, such as his boyhood poverty, from newspaper stories. What do you get? A man who has climbed from obscurity to international fame, from a tiny village to the head of the largest political party on earth, from nowhere to everywhere. What you get, therefore, is more than what you see.

The qualities that have put him in public office and sustained him there are qualities that are largely invisible to the public. His flaring ambition and his extraordinary tactical shrewdness have been shielded from view. Mondale often seems to be wearing a mask. But his very inexpressiveness is a clue to the political culture that has made him. That culture explains much of what enabled him to become the Democratic candidate. Equally, it suggests what he lacks - what he must find elsewhere, or fail.

A man of shrewdness and flaring ambition

In Minnesota the ultimate goal of politics is the achievement of an unspoken consensus. This constant quest derives mainly from religious and ethnic sources. The dominant religion is Lutheranism, which stresses ritual, authority, and social obligation. And most people are Scandinavian, like Mondale, who finds the poetry of life fishing in the silence of the north woods. The work ethic is deeply ingrained. If one works hard and adheres to the rules, success naturally follows. Good intentions are regarded nearly as highly as results. Trust is taken for granted.

Virtually everyone believes that the helping hand of fellowship must stay the harsh, invisible hand of the market. This implicit belief can be seen in the unexampled philanthropy of Minneapolis businessmen, who give more to charity and the arts than any comparable group in the nation. And it is apparent in the assumption shared by both political parties that government must do things that individuals acting alone cannot. The Democrats and the Republicans (who are more liberal than many Democrats elsewhere, and don't even call themselves Republicans) rarely debate first principles. The argument is over how, not whether, government should serve. The parties debate means, not ends; issues, not ideology.

The party that fostered Mondale began as a movement. Early in the century, across the plains of the upper Midwest, embittered farmers organized the Nonpartisan League to counter the grain elevator operators and railroad barons who ruled their fates even more capriciously than the weather. The league sought public ownership of the elevators and flour mills, and to

attain that goal it endorsed political candidates.

By 1930 the Farmer-Labor party, galvanized by the Depression, came to power in Minnesota. Its platform scoured capitalism and called for the creation of a "cooperative commonwealth". Its champion, Floyd Olson ("I am not a liberal, I am a radical"), was elected governor.

In 1936 Olson unexpectedly died, and the Republicans moved into the resulting vacuum. In 1938 Harold Stassen, the "boy wonder" founder of the modern Republican Party in the state, swept to the governorship at the age of 31. He was for "good government", replacing most of the patronage system with a civil service. Most important, he accepted the New Deal; he implemented his own social welfare, mental health, and environmental programmes. The F.L. and the Democrats merged in 1944, becoming the Democratic Farmer Labor Party.

The broker of the marriage between the F.L. and the Democrats was a young political science instructor at the University of Minnesota, Hubert Humphrey. He infused the D.F.L. with his energy, buoyancy, and commitment.

Few politicians in the D.F.L. tradition have manoeuvred as skillfully as Walter Mondale. He has advanced his career by a series of adroit tactical adjustments. Within the state he has been viewed as someone never quite possessed of his own persona, the protégé of one elder or another. Yet his appointments to a succession of offices were not gifts, but the result of energetic campaigns - campaigns, however, that were conducted out of public view. Mondale never presented himself to the Minnesota electorate as anything less than the incumbent. He has thrived by leaving as little as possible to chance.

Mondale entered the D.F.L. at a critical juncture. Anti-Communist liberals and Popular Fronters were locked in a fierce civil war - the national Democratic scene writ small. The tumultuous internecine

conflict over a great principle mostly turned on tactics such as packing caucuses. Young Mondale became a leader of the student auxiliary. His first political success, in fact, was achieved by importing patronage workers to a caucus to win control of a county Young D.F.L. group.

Working as a field organizer in Humphrey's 1948 Senate campaign, Mondale acquired a reputation as an effective technician. He went to law schools and joined Freeman and Fraser's firm. He was the bright young man, the safe young generation of leadership. Upon becoming Minnesota's attorney general, Mondale told a friend: "I'm never going to smile in public". He felt that no emotion was the most convincing expression.

Mondale wanted a Senate seat. The only opinion that mattered was that of the governor - stolid Karl Rolvaag, son of Ole Rolvaag, author of *Giant in the Earth*, the epic novel of Scandinavian immigration to the New World. Mondale happened to be one of Rolvaag's closest allies. The attorney general had a larger staff than the governor, and Mondale had put it at Rolvaag's disposal. Unfortunately, Rolvaag suffered from alcoholism. In June 1964, on a fishing expedition with Mondale, he had smashed up a motorboat while drinking. Mondale helped the governor back to the cabin; but he didn't report the accident to the police. Rolvaag owed Mondale for his tactful handling of the affair. Mondale was appointed by Rolvaag to the Senate seat.

To gain the support of the party establishment and at the same time try to appeal to the new generation, Humphrey appointed as co-chairman at his 1968 presidential campaign two youthful Senators: Fred Harris of Oklahoma, and Walter Mondale. Humphrey's style and Mondale's clashed. Mondale was always prepared and concise, whereas Humphrey was disorganized and effusive.

It was the new politics versus the old", Harris recalls. "Mondale and I were more in tune with the new." The battle between the campaign

factions was most intensely joined over the Vietnam issue. Mondale and Harris urged Humphrey to break with Lyndon Johnson on the war. Humphrey prepared a major speech calling for an unconditional bombing halt, which he showed his managers. "Don't change a word", Mondale advised. Humphrey agreed. Then, as he left the vice president's splendid office, Mondale stopped in the doorway. "Do you have to clear a speech like that with Johnson?" he asked. "Oh, no," said Humphrey. "This is a speech I'll give as a candidate. But as a courtesy I'll tell the president." The speech was never given.

For Mondale, the gruelling Humphrey campaign had clear lessons. He did not want to repeat the mistakes the tender-hearted and weak founding father had made. "Mondale worries about a person being too open like Humphrey", says Harris. "If he shows his emotions, he feels it might get him in trouble."

He found every fissure in Hart... and broke him

When Jimmy Carter named Mondale as his running mate in 1976, Humphrey was elated. Mondale got the job not by impressing Carter as a pale Humphrey, but as someone much more like Carter. Cool, calm, and dry, he prepared carefully, as usual, for his interview in Plains, even noting the similar points in his and Carter's books. Mondale combined Humphrey's constituencies and Carter's managerialism. Carter became the last in a long line of political leaders to discover in Mondale precisely the qualities he needed.

Throughout this year's campaign there have been eerie echoes. Humphrey had to disentangle himself from Johnson; Mondale from Carter. Humphrey had to prevail over McCarthy, who appealed to the young, independent, and moderate Republicans, like Gary Hart. Mondale stopped Hart's momentum just as the Kennedys stopped Humphrey's and McCarthy's. Hart claimed the Kennedy image, but Mondale, with old Bobby Kennedy operative John Reilly close at hand, claimed the ruthless tactics. Mondale found every fissure in Hart and relentlessly broke him apart. Once again, Mondale's tactical talent was proved.

Now Mondale's micropolitics confront Reagan's macropolitics. In the contest Mondale's experience and background are insufficient for victory. American politics is not Minnesota's writ large. The presidential political culture more nearly resembles that of California, where candidates, even for assembly races, are sustained by images and ideology. No politician there trusts his fate to party.

Mondale, the Minnesotan, never had to struggle to establish his political philosophy. Reagan, the Californian, is a founding father in his own right. He is the foremost leader of a conservative movement that has been transformed from a sect into a ruling elite. He has undergone a personal change from a leftist into a rightist, and therefore operates on a politically self-conscious and explicit level. He always casts his position in terms of first principles, while Mondale discusses discrete policies. Reagan's free-floating politics match his economic vision of an America without rules. Mondale, for his part, still assumes the centrality of the consensus Reagan has shattered.



Mondale with his own running mate: Labor Day in New York

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Digby Anderson

Protect, and we may not survive

The masked ball has ended. The true features of contemporary trade unionism are clear to see. Comradeship, compassion, craftsmanship and fraternity have, for many years now, been but the crudely painted mouthings on the mask. No doubt the mask will be tried on half-heartedly by Brighton's ritual workers but it will convince few even among union activists. They hardly bother with disguises any longer. The face of trade unionism is blatant sectional interest.

Their interest is advanced at the expense of the taxpayer-consumer forced to subsidize and then buy unnecessarily costly coal or travel so that the members of the NUM, Aslef and the NUR shall not be inconvenienced. It is advanced regardless of fellow workers' jobs in the steel industry or road haulage. It is advanced with no genuine concern for the weaker members of the community who suffer when essential services are disrupted. It is advanced in contempt of the rule of law and the mandate of democratically elected governments.

It is not the nature of trade unions that is to blame. Their ugliness has a deeper origin - a society in which sectional interests have been over-indulged and placated with privileges, in the unions' case with legal immunities. Any government contemplating the smallest reform of benefit to its people delays and dilutes it to buy the favours of sectional interests: the Confederation of British Industry, equal rights lobbyists, the subsidized ranks of the National Farmers Union, the Civil Service, the British Medical Association, solicitors protecting their conveyancing monopoly, teachers resisting parental choice of schools as well as the more obvious NUWPE, Nalgo and the NGA.

In such a society those who consume and pay for "public services". Wnd privately produced, but government-regulated, goods are disenfranchised by powerful producer interests. Industry passes on the costs of demarcation, professional exclusivism and over-manning to the consumer.

Nor do sectional interests act merely individually against the consumer. There is mounting evidence that, in the words of Samuel Brittan of the *Financial Times* "Stable societies... tend to accumulate collusive organizations and interest groups over time, and, thus, tend to lag behind in their growth rates and capacity to adapt, in comparison to newer and more dynamic societies".

At Brighton the trades unionists differ over the methods for conspiring against the public interest. One hundred and seventy miles away at Cambridge a conference of economists and other intellectuals discusses

how to reduce the power of sectional interests, whether advanced by legal or illegal muscle, how to restore everydayman, the consumer, as sovereign. The Mont Pelerin Society, founded in 1947 by Hayek and Friedman, both of whom are at the Cambridge meeting, has members worldwide who have played a significant part in the rehabilitation of economic liberalism in contemporary debate. Both Thatcher and Reagan administrations have drawn on their research.

Cambridge now offers two main strategies for cutting Brighton down to size. The first associated with Hayek's thinking would check the discretionary power of politicians to appease sectional interests by introducing constitutional arrangements prohibiting arbitrary legislation and restricting laws to embodying "general rules of just conduct". Other economists argue for specific constitutional limits on total government spending and deficits; yet others for the wider use of referenda on citizens' initiatives.

The second strategy is proposed for governments such as that of Mrs Thatcher, avowedly inclined to a list of significant reforms but frustrated in each item by different coalitions of sectional interests. Friedman argues that lobbying has reached such proportions that even the lobbyists would benefit from reduced lobbying, a general economic disarmament. Reforming governments can proceed by packaging their reduction of privileges for sectional interests so that those who lose privileges lose as many if not more disadvantages.

R.A. Butler suggested something similar. Faced with taming the conflicting interests of socialists, Conservatives, churchmen and trade unionists before the 1944 Education Act, he "decided to... make reform as comprehensive as possible and if there were any netties to get a good bunch of them in our arms and not be stung by a little one... the more nettles you collect, the more they sting one another and the less they sting you".

If the Mont Pelerin Society is up to its past form, such ideas will not long remain in exclusively academic debate. But perhaps the most important lesson is not to be found in the proposals themselves but the way they formed the problem. At Brighton the proclaimed divisions are between employers and labour, between left and right - the tired refrain of the class war. Cambridge suggests that the significant division and conflict in late twentieth century British society is none of these but is between the benefit of individuals and the power of any sectional interest however masked.

The author is Director of the Social Affairs Unit

Robin Cook

The big leak they leave unstopped

Last week I drew attention to the impressive speed with which the Law Officers assented within 24 hours to the prosecution of a civil servant for allegedly leaking embarrassing documents. A saint could not resist this week contrasting that alacrity with the dithering over the papers submitted to them on those underwriters who made secret profits out of their dealings in Lloyd's, by reinsuring in their own offshore paper company.

Apparently the reluctance to prosecute has three rationalizations. It would be difficult to expound the complexities of fraud to a jury; most of the money is still around to be repaid; and anyway most of the big fish have already followed their profits abroad to a tax haven. Similar considerations might have prevented prosecution of the Great Train Robbers, but it is difficult to imagine the DPP settling in such a case for repayment of the loot. Yet the funds at stake in this City scandal dwarf the sums involved in a modern billion raid and a government which ducks prosecution will be revealed as holding a very partial concern for law and order.

Lloyd's itself is something of an anachronism in the insurance world in that it still concentrates on the old-fashioned activity of insurance. The rapid growth of the insurance industry in recent years has been on the back of the swirling pension funds which they manage. Indeed the most significant trend in the financial world has been the spectacular rise in importance and power of the institutional investors, particularly in the wake of the stimulus to contractual savings from the 1975 Pension Act.

This radical development has not attracted the political interest which it deserves, although it raises profound questions of public policy. There is for example the issue of accountability. Management of institutional savings is tightly concentrated and control of the companies which employ the managers is even more narrowly based.

A survey of the directors of a number of major insurance companies identified a total of only 147 who between them held 1,693 interlocking directorships in each other's companies. They were mostly drawn from the same closed segment of the population; more than half had graduated from Oxbridge, and no less than a third were products of Eton. In their personal background they were even less representative than the present Cabinet.

This is all the more striking given that their influence depends on the monetary contributions of a wide cross-section of the working population, who to all intents and purposes have no control over how it is invested.

That would not matter if there

were not such obvious grounds for disquiet over the investment policies of insurance companies and independent pension funds. The need for more open debate is all the more urgent as Britain is passing through a window of investment opportunity in which pension funds are receiving more income from contributions than they have expenditure on pensions, a situation which will end as each fund matures.

Most recently unease has focused on the rapidly with which institutional investors cash in their shares, which conflicts with the requirements of industry for stability of ownership and long-term investment capital. The Wilson Committee discovered that in the 1960s the financial institutions had held on to their shares for an average of 24 years, but as they expanded in the 1970s the average period fell to six years, and recent experience would suggest that this trend has continued. The financial institutions appear to have achieved the retrograde result of transforming long-term savings towards pensions that may not be required for three decades into short-term investments.

Not can this penchant for the short-term view be justified by the obligation to turn in a good performance on the portfolio. Insurance companies and pension funds now hold a majority of publicly quoted shares and it is arithmetically impossible for them as a group to perform better than the market in which they constitute the largest investor. In turning over their shares in a frenzied effort to outstrip the general trend the only people to profit are merchant bankers and brokers who live by their commission, and some sour commentators have observed that most fund managers and consultants are drawn from those very professions.

Then there is the flood of investment out of the country into the economies of our competitors. Future historians are likely to regard as one of the mysteries of Britain's economic decline the enthusiasm with which her financiers led export of capital while investment in their own domestic industry fell from an already lamentable level.

There is a paradox at the heart of the British economy. The City of London is rivalled in Europe only by Zurich as a financial centre. Yet this enormous concentration of financial resources is surrounded on all sides by a nation in which industrial investment persists in remaining well below the level attained elsewhere by nations that do not possess that same potential. It is a perfect illustration of the perverse outcome that results from leaving a free market alone with its own prejudices.

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INTERVENE AND BE DAMNED

Mr Kinnock must be among the foremost of those to be disappointed that the claim of the proprietor of the *Daily Mirror* to be causing the news to happen turned out to be moonshine. The leaders of the Labour Party have been stretched out long enough on Mr Scargill's rack.

It is an unpopular strike with the general public and with the majority of trade unionists. Miners are seen to be demanding too much and to be bullying one another and other groups of organized workers in order to get it. The odium of unpopular strikes spreads to the Labour Party, and this one has affected Mr Kinnock's personal standing with the public. Moreover bitter division within the National Union of Mineworkers is reproduced within the Labour Party. How much better if the thing could be over, or at any rate deep in "meaningful" negotiation, before Labour's own conference comes round.

Yet there was no way Labour could avoid damage from the strike. To limit the damage was the best that could be done. The miners are the praetorian guard of organized labour. When they strike ostensibly to protect jobs and mining communities in a high-unemployment economy, the Labour movement as a whole has no choice but to rally round, if only in appearance, the parliamentary wing no less than the industrial wing. That holds good even if mining communities are at odds with each other, if a quarter of the membership ignores the strike call, and if the clear requirement for a national

ballot before a national strike is circumvented. The NUM is officially at war, and that is enough.

The parliamentary leadership's contribution to the miners' cause has been to misrepresent the Government's intentions towards the mining industry and inveigh against its conduct or non-conduct of the dispute. Behind the scenes Mr Stanley Orme has been the busiest of the go-betweens, having a realistic idea of the scope for compromise. The error of the parliamentary leadership has been to see too late that "picketing out" is intimidation issuing in overt violence, or, having seen it, to come too late to its duty to denounce it for what it is.

There was too long a period when the Labour Party in parliament, led by Mr Kaufman's ingenuity, sought to distract attention from the unlawful and menacing challenge of the miners' pickets by blowing up some of the dubieties of preemptive policing and the faults of fallible policemen with a riot on their hands. More recently, first Mr Hattersley and now Mr Kinnock have deployed without equivocation the violence employed by the miners' pickets.

Mr Kinnock's speech before the TUC yesterday was one of the more effective he has made and had a quality of political leadership. In a hall that still echoes to the acclamations of "total support" for the miners, Mr Kinnock tackled directly the question of violence in industrial

relations. Not every miner or miners' official present liked what he heard.

The miners had a winning case in reason, Mr Kinnock professed to believe, backed by the asset of rationality. It was not to be put with violence, which detracted from it and obscured its validity. Violence disgusted trade unionists and was alien to the temper of their movement. It provided their enemies with evidence for a charge of ambition to take political power by other than democratic means: an allegation contradicted by the history and practice of British trade unionism. Trade unions are for changing conditions, elections for changing governments. Mr Kinnock proclaimed with eloquence sentiments that needed to be heard in that company and that it took some courage to deliver. He did well, and did himself good.

The quid pro quo for this plain speaking was an uncritical and unqualified endorsement of the NUM's demand for no pit closures save in case of exhaustion or geological impracticability. Until Mr Scargill comes off that horse there can be no negotiated settlement of the kind to which Mr Kinnock rightly looks forward. Labour's own *Plan for Coal*, the text for the present dispute, envisages the closure, after consultation, of pits which cannot be worked economically. Had Mr Kinnock sought to recall the miners to reason on that matter as well as warning them against the criminalization of their dispute he would have done double service.

SHARPEVILLE SENDS ANOTHER MESSAGE

Sharpeville is a name etched in the hearts of the Afrikaner rulers of South Africa. In 1960 in this small Transvaal town police opened fire on a crowd of peaceful demonstrators and killed 69. The world reacted in horror. There was a flight of capital and panic in government circles. "Things will never be the same," said one minister. African leaders going to prison predicted that within three years they would be in power, and their confidence then did not seem as unwarranted as it proved.

Twenty-four years later Sharpeville is back in the world headlines. There are significant differences. The days of peaceful mass demonstrations are past. The police fired on rioters this time, and Africans murdered African collaborators with the regime.

This time the economy, though deep in trouble because of the continuing recession, the low gold price and the weakness of the rand, will not suffer as it did then: there are now effective fences against a flight of capital.

No one thinks that Sharpeville 1984 is the precursor of dramatic

change, as some did with Sharpeville 1960. The message is more sombre: things cannot go on in the long term as they are in South Africa; violence is ever-present, occasionally bubbling up into the world headlines, and certain to get worse.

The immediate and surface causes of the riots are relatively trivial: rising rents, inadequate schools (in which there was an excess of corporal punishment) and diminishing employment at a time of sharp inflation. But the mood of discontent has also been heightened by the intense political campaign waged by the United Democratic Front against the Coloured and Indian elections and by the brutal police reaction to it. The riots can be seen as yet another rejection of the new constitution introduced by Mr P. W. Botha, which redraws the apartheid boundaries to give some rights (but not a real share of power) to the Coloureds and Indians while leaving the black majority unrepresented.

Violence is multi-faceted in South Africa. The murder on his doorstep of the deputy mayor of Sharpeville (hacked to death and

his body set alight) must be seen in context. In one year 90 people were judicially executed, and 40,000 sentenced to corporal punishment; the prison population is 106,000 (from a population of 30 million, compared with about 45,000 in Britain from a population of 55 million). It is a form of violence that uproots families and deports them to black "homelands", that keeps Nelson Mandela in jail for more than 22 years and that caused Steve Biko to be murdered in police custody.

White South Africans tend to be cocooned against this violence (though there is an endemic crime wave). Manifestations usually take place away from the comfortable white suburbs in "townships". But complacency became more difficult in 1976 when schoolchildren in Soweto demonstrating their anger caused over a year of rumbling violence with about 600 people killed. The positive achievement of Mr Botha has been to bring out into the open the idea that some dramatic change is necessary if South Africa is to survive. The message from Sharpeville Mark Two is that his proposed change is not enough.

NOT A CRIME, NOT A PROFESSION

Prostitution operates in that equivocal territory between legality and illegality. Almost all those who discuss it agree, with a shrug or a sigh or a lick of the lips, that it would be impracticable and indeed oppressive to go against market forces to the extent of seeking to outlaw the activity as such. Yet where it is carried on there is apt to be offence, nuisance and fear (fear of dangers which may threaten residents and passers-by, as well as participants). So the law has sought chiefly to minimize nuisance and exploitation without making prostitution itself illegal.

The Criminal Law Revision Committee, whose report this month on street offences is part of a lengthy rumination, still in progress, on sexual offences in general, accepts that approach. The position is itself an equivocal one, reflecting the ambivalence of public attitudes. For while there may be nuisances and worse connected with the trade, the trade itself is also felt to be a most offensive nuisance by many who find it pursued, ugly, lucrative and untaxed, on their doorstep. But the further the law suppresses the visible offence, the more prostitution is thrust into a context of outright criminality, and vicious exploitation.

In other activities involving a margin of disorder – the sale of liquor is the closest, though not perfect example – vendors and clients receive a measure of protection, and restraint by having supply sanctioned only under controlled conditions. The law does "sanction" prostitution in the sense that anything not prohibited is permitted. But the more explicit sanction of establishing formal rules of supply has almost always appeared unacceptable in this country. It is rightly seen as degrading for state and participants alike for the

thing to be officially acknowledged as a profession, with regulated hours of duty, official standards of hygiene, contractual requirements legally enforceable on women who may be longing to escape from the trade, and so on.

Politicians generally bestir themselves to legislate in this area only in response to some public outcry. There is justified concern at present over kerb-crawling by predatory men, and also over the sharp rise in recorded offences since the penalty of imprisonment (for women only) effectively ceased to be available to the courts. The present law has also come in for criticism because it does not treat women and men alike. The committee's proposals would make it an offence for men to solicit women from a vehicle or to solicit persistently in a public place, and a more serious offence to solicit in a threatening way. This would help to even the balance between the sexes and seems well-judged.

This is satisfactory as far as it goes. But the more difficult problems lie elsewhere. Prostitution today operates in gaps in the law – gaps in statute or gaps in enforcement. It is an offence for an identified prostitute to seek business in public, however discreetly. In private, anyone who assists her activities for financial gain, from the landlord who supplies a room to the newsagent who puts a coded postcard in his window, also commits an offence. In a national exercise of turning the blind eye to equivocal messages, parous and advertisements for instruction in the language of Pascal and Bossuet, the sale of sexual services thrives on terms which enable the police to act when the public make a fuss, and not when they do not.

This kind of selective enforcement is unsatisfactory in prin-

ciple, and is a standing temptation to police corruption. Yet explicit sanction for these tolerated manifestations would change them: the surreptitious note in a newspaper's window is one thing, the alluring full-page spread in the glossy magazine quite another. Any such change would certainly increase business. It is sometimes claimed that fluctuations like the recent rise in street offences and the sevenfold decrease that followed the 1959 Act merely represent a shift from one place to another, but it is only realistic to assume that more publicity would mean more trade. That would be undesirable. If selective enforcement is unsatisfactory, a relaxation which failed to enforce discretion would be even more so.

In its earlier papers on other aspects of prostitution, the Committee took some account of the dangers that women would increasingly face, the more successfully they were driven off the streets into a criminal underworld. It has proposed the repeal of the indiscriminate sales in immoral earnings, and their replacement by more specific offences penalizing those who direct or control prostitutes. The committee has not acknowledged any need to provide loopholes for minimal advertising. Any such provision would need to contain the strictest safeguards against exploitation. There must be no question of anything resembling a seal of state approval for the trade, but if it is acknowledged that it cannot be stamped out, the state does have a responsibility to its vulnerable practitioners as well as to the wider public. As they go about their trade, the law should not encourage them, still less give them a blessing, but it should not force them or the general public into greater dangers than necessary.

Putting Europe in new perspective

From Mr Philip Allott

Sir, Lord Boothby (September 3) could not be more mistaken in describing as rickety the foundations of the EEC. Through the imagination and skill of its creators and through the rigours of experience, the institutional structure of the European Communities is solid, sophisticated and, like all good constitutional systems, full of rich potentialities for organic development.

It is already more sophisticated than the United States federal system, which was archaic when it was created and has remained so. We are not creating a United States of Europe. We are creating a new form of political union among proud and ancient nations.

At the present time the Community system is trapped in the condition of the Tudor Constitution in England – a good system elaborated and abused by one branch of government (the King) or the Council of the European Communities) obsessed with one particular policy above all others (the establishment of an independent Church in England/the common agricultural policy). What it needs is some imaginative and vigorous politicians in the style of Pym and Hampden and the young Bob Boothby or, failing that, a Cromwell or a Napoleon or a Cavour or a Bismarck, to carry it to the next stage of its natural development.

The need is urgent. The survival of European civilisation is once again threatened, in a world in which an important section of the people of the United States has worked itself up into the belief that it would be a good idea to "zap" the Russians if and when an opportunity occurs; a world whose political-economic centre of gravity is moving to Asia; a world in which yet another German Chancellor can use words (June 23, 1983) which echo ominously through the graves of the dead of three damnable wars: "There are two states in Germany, but there is only one German nation."

To abandon the foundations of the European Community would be folly. A Glorious Revolution may be wished for and worked for.

Yours truly,
PHILIP ALLOTT,
Trinity College,
Cambridge,
September 1.

Hospital returns

From Mrs Natalie Hodgson

Sir, In your article, on job losses in the NHS (August 24) Mr Kenneth Clarke records, with pride that, despite cuts of 11,900 in manpower, more patients than ever were treated.

These figures are misleading unless the numbers on the waiting lists are also recorded. If they are falling, then we are making headway, but if the numbers awaiting treatment are rising, then the health service is failing. I believe that every health authority should have the local waiting lists brought before them with monotonous regularity. Moreover the in-patient hospital numbers are meaningless until the practice is changed whereby hospital records in one figure the deaths and discharges. If hospital A admits 10 patients and they die within the week, whereas hospital B admits 10 patients, keeps them for three weeks and discharges them in good order, then hospital A will appear in statistics as three times as efficient as hospital B.

Hospitals would oppose this as they like to hide their record of deaths amongst the discharges, but they should not feel like this. Most of us will die in hospital and we all have to die, but the present method of putting these figures together leads to erroneous conclusions.

I have the honour to be, Sir, yours truly,
NATALIE HODGSON,
Arlsey Abbotts,
Bridgnorth,
Shropshire,
August 25.

The living language

From Mr Matthew Norgate

Sir, Major-General Sixsmith (August 18) is so right. The pleasantly ubiquitous Philip Howard sometimes does indeed seem to be justifying the misuse of certain words as instances of the growth of the language.

But I wonder if Mr Howard would give his approval to those (in *The Times* and *passim*) who keep saying "discussion" when they mean "discussion" or "negotiation" and "confrontation" for "disagreement" or even "threat of attack"; and alas, other such things that they surely shouldn't say.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
MATTHEW NORGATE,
Savage Club,
9 Fitzmaurice Place,
Berkeley Square, W1,
August 20.

A-level grades

From Miss C. G. Hunter

Sir, I write with reference to the letter from the Deputy Headmaster of Sir George Monoux School, Walthamstow (August 29) concerning our Advanced-level chemistry syllabus.

It is true that the Delegacy applies a hurdle system in grading the work submitted in Advanced-level chemistry; this is intended to ensure that the syllabus has been adequately covered. The views expressed by your correspondent are, however, based on a misunderstanding of the sentence quoted from our regulations.

It should be noted that what are required for each A-level grade are suitable levels of achievement in

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Pit strike pointer to Bill of Rights

From the Headmaster of Tonbridge School

Sir, The difficulties of the miners' strike and the wider industrial and political problems flowing from it have been compounded by the way in which questions of policy and constitutional liberty have been confused and intertwined.

A written Constitution, including a Bill of Rights and a clearer separation of powers, would have enabled many issues to be tackled without the sense of ultimate confrontation which now bedevils the dispute. For instance, the labour legislation to which the unions object would have been subject to judicial review by a supreme court independent of the government of the day. Police actions against miners travelling from county to county could have been tested in the same way.

Our unwritten arrangements are no longer a sufficiently representative, effective or clear definition of our constitutional ideas and are certainly not strong enough to provide a constitutional structure within which we can face up to the inescapable pressure for increasingly rapid economic, industrial and general change.

Even if it is too late to affect the present dispute, we must now give a high priority to devising a written Constitution on the lines for which Lord Hailsham and many others have already called.

A first step to convincing the political parties of the need for this should be the calling of a well prepared, unofficial and widely representative conference. I believe that many firms and institutions would be willing to sponsor such a meeting and the preparations for it.

Yours sincerely,
C. H. D. EVERETT,
School House,
Tonbridge School,
Tonbridge, Kent,
September 1.

From Mr Richard Hickmet, MP for Gleanford and Scunthorpe (Conservative)

Sir, In his article (August 31) Mr Scargill fails to explain or excuse his union's policy towards the steel industry and the 71,000 steelworkers employed by the BSC.

Dark Age London

From Mr Martin Biddle

Sir, Professor J. C. Mann (August 14) suggests that seventh-century London may have moved westwards attracted by late Roman Christian settlements around churches in the Holborn/Strand/Fleet Street area. Early Christian churches, especially those with the cult of a powerful martyr, could indeed move cities.

Rome. In many other places settlement followed a saint, leaving an old city wholly or partially deserted, or forming a rival centre – Augsburg, Bonn, Xanten (*ad sanctos*), Tours are examples.

In Britain, Verulamium lies empty in its valley while St Albans has attracted the living to his hilltop city – a tradition for which recent excavations by my wife and myself for the St Albans Abbey Research Committee seem to be providing a firm archaeological context (report, August 15).

But I doubt if London is another example. True, the known Roman suburban stone buildings west of Londinium have all been found under churches but there is no evidence of Romano-British Christianity, or for continuity of Christian use, on any of these sites. The Anglo-Saxons may simply have reused convenient standing buildings, even pagan shrines or tombs, as Pope Gregory encouraged Augustine to do.

London, as I tried to show in my original paper in the July issue of

Figuring it out

From Mr Richard Burrows

Sir, British Telecom need look no further than their own doorstep to find an effective cure for the ludicrous and confusing system of local dialling codes from which Mr Stanley Blow (August 25) suffers.

If a system based on area codes, such as that used in London and other major cities, were extended to cover the whole country, then the task of those of us who need to maintain lists of subscribers to whom calls must be made from a number of different locations would be eased immeasurably.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD BURROWS,
Malt House,
Kensington,
Sevenoaks,
Kent,
August 28.

Public view of land

From Mr John Wright

Sir, Surely the right justification for the almost unique secrecy of our land register (leading article, August

each of the three theory papers. This does not imply that candidates must produce equal performances in each paper, nor that they are automatically graded according to their worst paper.

The awarders scrutinize the work offered and decide on the appropriate standard of work which candidates must produce in each paper in order to achieve a given grade. The grade for each candidate is then decided by the aggregate mark, the performance in the practical paper; furthermore, what might seem to be very severe demands are ameliorated by accepting a lower hurdle in one of the three papers.

Finally, it must be realised that the awarders' decisions are made as a result of close and intensive study of scripts and all borderline cases are

Since the beginning of the miners' strike there has been a deliberate and sustained effort to close down one of the five major steelworks in the United Kingdom by preventing coal, coke or ore entering the works. The reason for this is to demonstrate the NUM's industrial muscle.

As a result 10,000 jobs are at risk in Scunthorpe, in my constituency, and a total of at least 5,000 in Ravenscraig and Llanwern respectively. On occasions several thousand pickets have battled with police outside the coke works at Orgreave in an effort to prevent coke getting to Scunthorpe.

Success for Mr Scargill would have resulted in the closure of Scunthorpe steelworks, 7,000 compulsory redundancies amongst BSC's workforce, 3,000 in steel-dependent industries with no alternative employment for those affected or benefits comparable to those on offer to mineworkers who volunteer to leave the industry.

Scunthorpe has a population of 66,000. It is a steel town. Another 30,000 live in the surrounding area. How does Mr Scargill possibly justify his union's efforts to produce economic misery on such a scale in my constituency?

It is the height of hypocrisy for him to accuse the Government of political motives or to talk about entire regions facing despair and poverty when, in the words of Bill Sirs, the leader of the steelmen's union, he is seeking "to sacrifice steelworkers' jobs on the altar of his own political ambition".

Further, imagine the despair and poverty in Scunthorpe, Ravenscraig and Llanwern if Mr Scargill is successful in closing the steelworks there.

As for political motives the two national dock strikes have been engineered by the NUM's basic desire to close down Scunthorpe and Ravenscraig by starving them of ore and coal and by the TGWU's decision, for political reasons, to support them by blacking such coal and ore with all the disastrous consequences for Britain's economy which follow.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD HICKMET,
House of Commons,
August 31.

Popular Archaeology (report, July 30), is more likely to be an example of another and much more usual line of development. In these cases secular and ecclesiastical power continued to be exercised from traditional centres of authority long after the end of imperial rule, usually from administrative buildings or important residences within the walls of former Roman cities.

Commercial life, by contrast, once it got going again in the seventh century, was often found not within the walls but outside, in a more convenient location for trade. This might be immediately outside the walls (as at Cologne, Mainz, and possibly York) or at a distance, on a better harbour (Winchester and Southampton; Canterbury and Fordwich).

These open trading places were often called *wics* (for example, Hamwic (Southampton), Fordwich, Ipswich) – a term that probably means a place with certain legal immunities, presumably those intended to encourage trade. Such places were probably deliberate royal foundations.

Aldwych – the old *wic* – indicates the site of a Dark Age London on the Strand/Fleet Street terrace. It was not so much a settlement of Romano-British Christian origins as the commercial foundation of an Anglo-Saxon king at the beginning of the seventh century.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN BIDDLE,
Christ Church,
Oxford.

29) is that the Englishman particularly dislikes others knowing how much he paid or sold his castle for, with the possible implications of his having been had for a mug, done somebody else down, or made an excessive profit. Ownership should be public but the price paid at each transaction need not be shown.

It is to be hoped that the committee will also look keenly at another part of conveyancing where information is often lacking quite unnecessarily – in the positions and ownership of boundary features which in most cases define our property.

Both the Law Commission and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors have recommended that this feature of conveyancing should be improved; and with our excellent and virtually unique system of large-scale Ordnance Survey plans it need only occasionally require professional land survey work.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WRIGHT,
Webbs Farmhouse,
West Wittering,
Chichester,
West Sussex.

re-scrutinized before the grades are ultimately awarded.

It is true that a candidate who misses one paper because of ill health and on whose behalf a medical certificate and school report are presented will be considered on the basis of the performance in the other two papers; such a case is judged and assessed on its merits.

The Delegacy does not give segregated awards, which are usually taken to imply the award of a certificate where no examination work at all has been presented.

Yours faithfully,
C. G. HUNTER, Secretary,
University of Oxford,
Delegacy of Local Examinations,
Ewert Place,
Summertown,
Oxford,
September 4.

The proper uses of history

From Mr John Clifford

Sir, Lord Henderson, in his letter of August 31, seems to have forgotten that the purpose of "patriotic" history is not only to arouse interest in Britain's past and the consequences of that past, but also to serve as a means of unifying the nation by evoking a common past, shared emotions and the sense of belonging to this country against all others.

Such history must be taught with a view to the present and the future; if the pupil, having been taught such history, considers himself a spectator rather than a participant, then such history has no point.

Bearing this in mind, Lord Henderson's suggestion that the tercentenary of the Glorious Revolution be given national prominence should be considered carefully.

Not only is it questionable whether 1688 bequeathed us the modern parliamentary system, but more importantly there lies the danger that the open celebration of this event will arouse contrary opinions, best kept confined within the obscurity of historical journals, and the awakening of emotions that have lain dormant within the national psyche for this century at least.

Many may well recall that 1688 and subsequent events did little to improve Anglo-Scottish relations or that William of Orange was welcomed by many because he would not pursue the Stuart policy of religious toleration, hardly the advent of parliamentary democracy that some have made it out to be, bearing in mind that the House of Lords held the parliamentary initiative under William, the Commons relegated to being a mere appendage.

Whether or not the Government does decide to celebrate 1688, it has to be remembered that in one province of the United Kingdom celebrations will undoubtedly occur and in view of the Government's responsibilities in Northern Ireland one wonders whether it would be wise for them to sponsor what would appear to be an undiluted Orange-flavoured brand of history.

The party of government must also ask itself whether it wishes to condone the messy and unconstitutional overthrow of a monarch, an event which left their political forefathers in a quandary comparable only to that which grips the modern Labour Party.

Ideally, if British history contained a war of independence or the ousting of some foreign invader, then we would have good reason to mount lavish celebrations (one has only to look towards the United States). However, as these seem to be absent in our modern history, might I suggest that if we are to celebrate anything in 1988, then why not the tercentenary of the defeat of the Spanish Armada, though this has the disadvantage that it will do little to improve Anglo-Spanish relations.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN CLIFFORD,
5 Leamington Avenue,
Morden,
Surrey,
September 2.

Election of bishops

From the Bishop of Derby

Sir, It is a pity that Canon George Austin (August 28) denigrates members of the General Synod to make his sensible point that "the capillary election is now... an important long-stop in the event of the state (or the Crown Appointment Commission) ignoring the advice received in local consultations."

Many of us who are not conscious of belonging to any "dominant liberal establishment" find in capillary election the serious limitation that it is entirely clerical. It is not synodical.

A more satisfactory long-stop would be the Bishop's Council, which is a statutory body set up under the Synodical Government Measure. Some of its members are likely to have served on the non-statutory vacancy in the committee and all its members, both elected and ex-officio, are fully aware of the work of the diocese and the leadership needed by it.

Canon Austin ignores in his letter the confirmation of election, which the Bishops Appointment Measure replaced with a simple and suitable alternative. The present ceremony is far from being a harmless anachronism. It is an expensive farce and spiritually unseemly.

On the occasion when I was subject to it I spent the whole time praying that no uninformed person would come in and imagine that it expressed the real life of the church.

Yours faithfully,
CYRIL DERBY,
The Bishop's House,
6 King Street,
Duffield,
Derby,
August 28.

All-round vision

From Mr David H. R. Yorke

Sir, Mrs Green (August 30) is fortunate in that her new reading aid made no greater demand than "lie flat on the paper".

Had she applied it to a card such as I found recently in an hotel bedroom she would have read, "For breakfast in your room hang outside on the door knob up to 4 am."

Yours faithfully,
DAVID H. R. YORKE,
Holford Manor,
North Chalfey,
Sussex,
August 30.

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Shares slithering into a shallow depression

There is now an unease in the equity market which, though it may not presage a serious bear market, strongly suggests that the bull market has finally petered out. Since the phase of April euphoria following the Budget, British shares have shown little will of their own: with exceptions prompted by takeover bids, real and rumoured, they have followed lamely paths dictated by the gilt-edged market and Wall Street.

The financial key is still the structure of interest rates. If the sagacious Dr Henry Kaufman of Salomon Brothers is right, only a prolonged US car workers strike (unlikely) would stop the US economy regaining fresh momentum in the autumn, and by the same token stop US interest rates edging up.

Unlike the American, the British business recovery has lacked strength and real conviction. Brokers de Zoete & Bevan suggest that demand may have reached the top of the cycle in 1983. That in itself is a disappointing conjecture, and it is made worse by the depressing psychological effects of the long miners' strike. Business optimism reflected in surveys like that of the Confederation of British Industry will not bloom again as long as Mr Arthur Scargill's brigades are rampaging the country.

In a strictly business sense, few companies (most have their contingency plans in operation or ready) will be gravely put out by lack of coal, which is becoming almost an irrelevance. The harm is in what the miners' strike, even if it does not lead in the end to Mr Scargill's coronation, signifies about attitudes and priorities in unionized Britain. Perhaps after all, there has been no fundamental change: politically motivated Luddites still rule, despite a lengthy recession and Mrs Thatcher's brisk experiment in economic realism.

The truth is still hard to gauge. One aspect of it however, cannot be gainsaid. The tendency still is for British real wages to rise faster than productivity. Neither recession and high unemployment nor the discipline unleashed of market forces has dented the belief that yearly pay increases of between 5 and 10 per cent are British law of nature.

The fall in sterling below \$130 may be largely explained away by the strength of the US dollar, but that is not the whole story. The external view of our affairs has again turned pessimistic.

Returning to the equity market, I would go no further at this stage than predicting a 10-15 per cent drop. Barring widespread industrial disruption or a full-blown financial crisis stemming from the perilous state of many US banks and savings institutions, the market would probably start anticipating better times towards the end of 1985.

A mass of would-be market makers

At least one area of the planned new stock market, namely market-making, looks bound to get off the ground without a tremor. Well over 50 financial institutions have expressed interest in becoming official market makers. A figure as high as 80 has also been quoted. The Bank of England refuses to be drawn beyond commenting that a large number of people have been in touch.

This level of enthusiasm creates a problem, since the new system, as envisaged, is probably incapable of supporting more than a dozen or so market makers. Even then, the drive to build up market share by ruthless price competition would be intense. Any larger

body of operators might generate great volatility in prices.

It is not yet clear what criteria will be applied to applicants. The Bank of England plans to publish a Green Paper some time in the autumn, which will outline possible levels of capital adequacy, as well as stressing questions of commitment - market makers will need to make a market at all times, not just when the sun is shining - and discretion. The Bank will also take a keen interest in how a market making department in an institution relates to the rest of the business, particularly fund management.

By a process of "natural selection", many of the current list of applicants may well drop out. Others may call it a day when the discussion proposals are pulled together into a set of final instructions.

The authorities have no plans to set up a ring fence round the London market to exclude foreigners. That would be contrary to the spirit in which the new London market has been conceived. There may be some surprising new names among the chosen few. Equally there may be some surprising omissions. More nails in the coffin of the clubbable old London gilt market?

Storm in a teacup for the OFT

The share price of Brooke Bond is still hovering above Unilever's cash bid just as it did above Tate & Lyle's still open offering. That leaves all the players with something to think about, but none more than the Office of Fair Trading. Having cleared Tate's bid for Brooke Bond, the OFT has been put in something of a quandary by the late transmutation of the white knight into Captain Birdseye, not to mention the possibility of the real thing still turning up: General Foods, for one, made an on-the-record "no comment" yesterday.

If Mr Norman Tebbit accepted OFT advice to refer Unilever's offer to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, he would in all probability be deciding the issue before the Commission called its first witness.

That makes an already difficult decision for the OFT doubly delicate. In one sense, Unilever's bid comes in the same category as Tate's: there is little threat to competition between individual products in the UK and the businesses are complementary. It also comes in the same category as Unilever's wish to buy Allied Breweries, which was referred to the Commission. It would give considerably greater general market power in the grocery and supermarket branded goods trade to an already formidably powerful firm - vis-a-vis other producers at least.

Moreover, a successful Unilever bid for Brooke Bond might well give the green light for someone else to buy Tate and Lyle, this giving the current merger spiral another twist.

Unilever's entry is just the sort of case in normal circumstances the MMC might usefully have looked at without prejudice. Meanwhile, the Indian and (less likely) the US authorities might have something to say about putting together Brooke Bond and Unilever's Lipton tea interests.

Barring such official impediments, the merger form book would suggest that Brooke Bond is unlikely to retain its independence in the face of two or more rival bids and that the biggest would-be buyer does not like to be bested by a smaller rival. This message already seems to have been received loud and clear in the Tate and Lyle boardroom.

Strikes and strong dollar push pound to record \$1.2905 low

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Gloomy industrial news and the pound's weakness against the surging dollar dominated financial markets yesterday overshadowing another respectable set of money supply figures.

The pound fell to a new low of \$1.2905 against the dollar before closing at \$1.2915, down 1.15 cents. The calling off of talks between the miners and the National Coal Board were partly to blame and led to some weakness against Continental currencies, but dealers said the main cause was the dollar's strength.

According to the Bank of England's provisional estimates, sterling M3, the most widely watched measure of monetary growth, increased by 0.75 per cent in the four weeks to mid-August. This was towards the top end of City expectations, but it leaves the measure comfortably within the Government's target range.

Together with the moderate growth in M0, the narrow measure which the Treasury considers equally important,

MONEY GROWTH (% change)		
	Aug	Feb-Aug annualised
M0	Nil	+4%
M3	+1%	+9%
PSL2	+1%	+15%

Target ranges Feb, 1984, to April, 1985

M0 4 to 8 per cent

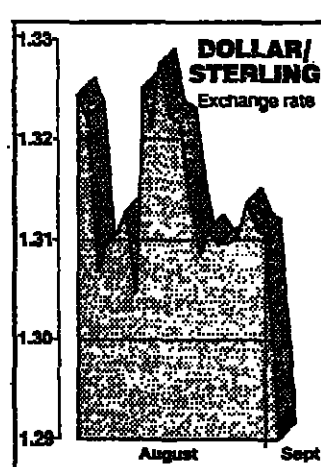
M3 6 to 10 per cent

Source: Bank of England

and which showed no change last month, this suggests that the Government would be happy to see some further reduction in interest rates but for the uncertainty over the miners' and dockworkers' disputes.

However, the authorities appear to feel that another cut in interest rates is ruled out until the present industrial problems are settled. They are concerned not to encourage a fall in interest rates which might have to be quickly reversed.

The expectation of firm American interest rates sent the dollar racing ahead as markets



threw off their summer torpor. The dollar touched 2.930 against the Deutschmark before closing in London 1.7 pence higher on the day at DM2.9295. It also rose close to FF9.

The pound closed generally weaker against other leading currencies, slipping 68 points against the Deutschmark to close at DM3.7875.

The pound's fall and concern that the miners' strike will begin to have an increasingly notice-

able effect on the economy, led to some nervousness in financial markets. Government stocks weakened, losing up to 2½% at the long end of the market and interest rates in the money markets firmed slightly.

The August money supply figures provide further confirmation that monetary growth is back under control after the surge early in the year. Although the impact of heavy government borrowing early in the year was still evident, the £1.3 billion expansionary contribution from the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement was more than offset by heavy government funding which totalled £1.7 billion in banking August.

Bank lending grew by an estimated £700m in August compared with a monthly average of £1.2 billion in the previous six months. But bank lending was artificially depressed by £450m because of internal accounting adjustments by Lloyds Bank, although they had no overall impact on the money supply figures since the £450m showed up in the other counterparts.

Index falls 16 points

Share prices tumbled yesterday, dismayed by the sudden collapse of the miners' peace initiative and the pound's weakness against the US dollar which could delay any further interest rate cuts.

Trading was not heavy but many takeover speculators, nursing significant profits from the recent bout of bid excitement, were quick to sell shares when they realized jobbers were sharply marking down prices.

The FT 30 share index, which had risen in the last four trading days, fell 16.8 points to 338.3 points. The most broadly based FT-SE 100 share index was lowered 21.6 points to 1,083.7 points.

Government stocks, already unsettled by sterling's poor performance on the foreign exchange market, lost further ground as the market registered disappointment with the money supply figures.

Among leading equities lowered were British Petroleum which fell 16p to 475p; Hanson Trust 10p to 325p and Imperial Chemical Industries, 6p to 612p.

Share prices, page 16
Market report, page 17

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1083.7 down 21.6 (high 1,100, low 1083.7)
FT Index: 338.3 down 16.8
FT All Share: 79.43 down 0.41
FT All Share: 513.17 down 8.46
Burgundy: 18.74
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 102.13 down 0.48
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1212.01 down 12.35
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 10,609.53 down 20.55
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index: 947.02 up 7.60
Amsterdam: 165.5 unchanged
Sydney: ASX Index: 728.6 down 1.8
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index: 1002.4 up 0.38
Brussels: General Index: 157.86 up 0.38
Paris: CAC Index: 173.2 unchanged
Zurich: SBA General: 306.90 unchanged

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling \$1.2915 down 1.15 cent
Index 77.5 down 0.2
DM 3.7875 down 0.0068
FF 11.61 down 0.02
Yen 315 down 1.25
Dollar Index 137.7 up 0.5
DM 2.9295 up 0.0170
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: 1212.01 down 12.35
Sterling \$1.2915
Dollar DM 2.9295
ECU 0.582753
SDR 0.75727

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rate 10%
Finance houses base rate 11%
Discount market loans week fixed 10%
3 month interbank 10%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 12½% - 11½%
3 month DM 9½% - 8½%
3 month FF 11½% - 11%
US rates:
Bank prime rate 13.00
Fed funds 11%
Treasury long bond 9%
ECGFX Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period August 8 to September 4 1984, inclusive: 10.806 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$341.75 pm \$341.20
close \$340.00 - \$341.00 (\$263.25 - 263.75)
New York (latest): \$341.00
Kruggerand (per ounce):
\$350.50 - \$352.50 (\$271.00 - 272.00)
Sovereigns (new):
\$60.00 - \$61.00 (\$262.00 - 262.75)
*Excludes VAT

Nestlé and Carnation agree \$3bn merger

By Michael Prest

Nestlé, the Swiss food multinational, and Carnation, the American food group, have agreed to one of the biggest mergers in corporate history which, if successful, will create a powerful new force in the international food industry.

Carnation's board has recommended to shareholders that they accept the Nestlé tender offer of \$83 a share, valuing Carnation at almost \$3,000m (£2,300m). The Nestlé offer is not conditional on a particular number of shares being tendered.

Monday was a public holiday in the United States, but Carnation's stock closed in New York at \$75½. On Friday, Carnation has already granted Nestlé an option to buy 6.4 million shares at the tender price, Nestlé has already agreed to buy 9.4 million shares, or 27 per cent of the total equity, from leading shareholders at the same price.

The potential size of the new grouping is enormous. Last year Carnation's sales of dairy, pet food, and grocery products amounted to \$3,400m. Nestlé whose interests range from dairy products to confectionery, had worldwide sales of \$wFr27,940m (£8,842m).

If the offer is successful, Carnation will be merged with Nestlé's wholly-owned American subsidiary of the main Nestlé group. Any common shares of Carnation outstanding will be converted into the right to receive \$83 a share.

Nestlé Holdings controls such group companies as Borden, the makers of chewing gum, Libby McNeill, the canners of fruit and fruit juices, and Stouffer Corporation, an American food company bought from Litton Industries, in 1973.

The merger is the culmination of a long search by Nestlé for substantial American assets. In July, the Swiss company was forced by the US Federal Trade Commission to drop a \$500m offer for CooperVision, a Californian maker of ophthalmological pharmaceuticals and contact lenses.

In a statement yesterday Nestlé said: "Discussions with the management of Carnation showed that, considering the complementary nature of their activities, such a move would be of mutual interest." Agreement on the merger was reached on Monday.

A word of caution was entered by a Nestlé spokesman, who said that purchase of Carnation shares would not begin until the offer had been approved by the FTC. The offer is the biggest in Nestlé's history.

Britain's oil production rose in July to slightly over 2.5 million barrels a day, after the drop in the previous month, the broker calculates. The dock strike is unlikely to affect oil production materially.

Because of the smaller nature of new development projects, the cost element in the development equation is becoming more and more important, and in some cases the level of capital commitment required may prove the biggest stumbling block, Wood Mackenzie says.

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Swraj Paul: "passive investment" in ML Holdings

Caparo in £13.5m bid for Fidelity

By William Kay, City Editor

Caparo Industries, the public company 75 per cent controlled by Mr Swraj Paul's privately-owned Caparo Group, has made a £120p-a-share cash bid for Fidelity, the television, telephone and tape recorder company in which the Dickman family has a 12.4 per cent stake.

The bid is not agreed, but Caparo owns 32.4 per cent of Fidelity and says it wants to maintain the electronics company's share quote.

When Caparo declared an initial 8.4 per cent holding in Fidelity in June, Mr Paul described it as a "passive investment" which was not a prelude to a full-scale bid. Yesterday's offer values Fidelity at £13.5m.

Mr Paul said: "It is a stated objective of Caparo Industries to secure growth in profits by acquisition of businesses with higher technology whose products or market position have some built-in growth prospects, and where performance improvement is not the major criterion."

The Fidelity board met last night to discuss the bid. Mr Steven Dickman took over as

BHP denies designs on Lasmo

By Ian Griffiths

The Australian industrial and mining conglomerate, BHP, denied yesterday that it is about to launch a takeover bid for London and Scottish Marine Oil (Lasmo).

Lasmo's share price rose sharply on Friday and speculation over the weekend attributed this to an approach by BHP.

But a BHP spokesman said in Melbourne that there was no truth in the speculation and that it was too early to speculate about any foreign acquisition. Lasmo's shares dipped 20p to 318p.

One reason for the speculation was that in July BHP said that it hoped to acquire a share in North Sea oil, where Lasmo has large producing interests.

However, BHP would prefer to buy a share of production rather than a producing company. It would like a small cash flow from the North Sea to offset planned exploration spending in the area.

The company needs to expand its petroleum income base in Britain because the Australian government will not allow deduction of foreign exploration costs against Australian income for tax purposes.

The initial does not rule out future acquisitions. BHP is about to set up a London office to explore possible takeovers.

The group is also planning to spend up to A\$500m (£317.5m) on a US oil company

● LADBROKE RACING, part of the Ladbroke Group, is taking over AHK Sporting Investments in a £1.275m deal. AHK trades as Caledonian Racing with 28 betting shops, mainly in Scotland.

Shop sales confirm rising trend

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

July retail sales, which provisionally had been put at 110.7 on the seasonally adjusted volume index, were rather higher at 111.2, according to final figures yesterday from the Department of Trade and Industry. This was marginally above the index for May but was still nearly 1 per cent lower than June.

It leaves the trend in sales upward. In the three months to end-July sales were 1.5 per cent higher than in the previous three months, seasonally adjusted, and nearly 4 per cent higher than in the comparable period last year.

In the latest three months non-food sales rose nearly 3 per cent, with clothing and footwear leading the increases. Mixed businesses showed a 1 per cent rise. Food remained a static sector.

The July fall (over June) could indicate some easing of the upward trend in volume sales, particularly as the effect of increased mortgage payments had only a limited impact. There were fears that this effect would show more strongly in August.

But summer sales running into August may prove to have underpinned that month's sales. Additionally the department stores of the John Lewis Partnership reported in the four weeks ended August 25 an increase of 11.4 per cent in value of sales by annual comparison. Price inflation in department store goods is not high so this will represent a substantial volume increase.

Beer production in July was down 2.6 per cent compared with July last year when sales benefited from long spells of hot weather. July was also warmer and drier in many areas, was not as good, said the Brewers' Society, which had expected production to slow because of reports of reduced sales. For the year so far production is up 0.9 per cent on the same period of last year.

Mr Ralph Price, chairman of ML, said: "We are big defence contractors and the Ministry of Defence would certainly be interested if he mounted a full bid."

Manufacturing and engineering investment with effective cost control produced satisfactory results.

Aerospaces. Civil market recovery under way; military business encouraging; new product development at high level.

Mining. World market conditions difficult; leader in electronic controls for longwall roof supports.

Industrial. Market upturn in second half; prospects improving with world economy.

Electronics. Steady growth through innovation and acquisition.

Results in Brief

	1983/4	1982/3
Turnover	£402m	£420m
Trading Profit	£42.3m	£42.1m
Profit before tax	£36.5m	£36.4m
Order book	£340m	£324m

Earnings per share	13.3p	12.1p
Dividend per share	4.5p	3.9p
Dividend cover	2.9	3.1

1983/84 Report and Accounts available from: The Strategy, Dowty Group PLC, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England.

12 Queen's Awards for Technology & Export 1987-1984

The Annual General Meeting will be at the registered office, 100, Queen's Road, Cheltenham, on Thursday 26th September at 11.30 a.m.

Cost reducing Automatic tool components and fixings

Cost reducing Automatic tool components and fixings

Cost reducing Automatic tool components and fixings

Cost reducing Automatic tool components and fixings

NEWS IN BRIEF

£6.8m offer by Smiths Industries

Smiths Industries, the aerospace and medical equipment group, has announced an agreed £6.8m takeover bid for Superflex, a private company specializing in the manufacture and distribution of flexible electrical conduits. The company also makes power and electrical connectors.

Directors and other shareholders owning 77 per cent of Superflex's capital have undertaken to accept the offer which consists of 11 Smiths Industries shares for every 18 Superflex shares. Shareholders may choose to receive all or part of the consideration in cash. Smiths Industries has put a ceiling of £1.657m on the amount of cash it will pay.

● NURDIN & PEACOCK, the cash and carry wholesalers, has lifted pretax profits for the half year to June 30 from £3.2m to £3.5m. Turnover increased to £264.7m up from £239.3m. An interim dividend of 1.7p is to be paid against 1.47p last time.

Tempus, page 17

● PROVIDENT FINANCIAL, the check trading and personal loan group, yesterday announced a 10 per cent rise in pretax profits to £6.3m (£5.7m) despite making unquantified provisions against profits for bad debts in mining areas. The dividend rises from 3p to 3.5p for the six months' trading to June 30.

Tempus, page 17

● LONSDALE, the merchant banking group, is raising its half-year dividend from 4.5p to 5p net. The group says results for the half year are better than in the corresponding period last year.

Former bank president takes over at Peugeot

Paris (AFP) - M Jean Paul Parayre yesterday announced his resignation as chairman of the private French motor group, Peugeot SA, official sources said in Paris.

M Parayre was replaced by M Jacques Calvet, who has been president of Peugeot's two car divisions, Automobiles Peugeot and Automobiles Citroën.

Calvet, a former president of the Banque Nationale de Paris, joined the group in 1982 and has been instrumental in

dealing with unions and the French government to arrange labour reductions.

The Peugeot group last year lost FFfr2.5 billion (\$284m) and has been trying to improve its operation through the labour cuts.

● WEST GERMAN gross national product provisionally fell almost 1.5 per cent, seasonally and calendar adjusted, in the second quarter against the first quarter.

Tempus, page 17

Tempus, page 17

Survey sees 900 million barrels for UK reserves

'\$10bn investment' for N Sea

By Our Industrial Staff

The oil industry is likely to spend nearly \$10 billion (£7.7 billion) on developing fields in the proven part of the North Sea over the rest of the 1980s, according to the stockbroking firm Wood Mackenzie in its latest North Sea survey.

These new fields in the central and northern North Sea - where all Britain's main discoveries so far have been made - could add 900 million barrels of reserves, the firm calculates.

Wood Mackenzie says that the renewed enthusiasm for the British sector of the North Sea shown by oil companies after the favourable tax changes in the 1983 Budget is being maintained.

The kind of projects that are seen close to development confirm that the much-vaunted "second phase" of North Sea activity - involving smaller discoveries and fields with "less robust" economics - is now well under way.

The kind of projects that are seen close to development confirm that the much-vaunted "second phase" of North Sea activity - involving smaller discoveries and fields with "less robust" economics - is now well under way.

THE TIMES
Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page.

If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card.

You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Year price or loss
1	INDUSTRIALS E-K	
2	Force-Minor	
3	Jordan (Thomas)	
4	Habit Precision	
5	Ferguson Ind	
6	Grampian	
7	Hatcham Whampoa	
8	Jackson (J & H)	
9	Fitzwilliam	
10	Harrogate	
11	FOODS	
12	Hillside	
13	Glass Glycer	
14	Brooke Bond	
15	RHM	
16	Somerset	
17	Lennors	
18	Global Co	
19	Dee	
20	Sandwich (J)	
21	Asac Fisheries	
22	INDUSTRIALS S-Z	
23	Triplex Foundations	
24	Wilby	
25	Wood (Arthur)	
26	Syhone	
27	Simon Eng	
28	Schott's Law	
29	Transport Dev	
30	Sales-Servco	
31	Stonehill	
32	Securcor	
33	PROPERTY	
34	Fairview	
35	Kear (IMP)	
36	Five Oaks	
37	Rosehaugh	
38	Dares	
39	Reichy	
40	Land Investors	
41	Soy Met	
42	Warfield	

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's Newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly

BRITISH FUNDS

High Low Stock Price Chg % Price Chg %

SHORTS

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

MEDIUMS

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

LONGS

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

BREWERIES

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

BUILDING AND ROADS

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

CINEMAS AND TV

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

DRAPERY AND STORES

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

ELECTRICALS

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

FINANCE AND LAND

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

FOODS

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

HOTELS AND CATERERS

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

INDUSTRIALS E-K

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

INDUSTRIALS S-Z

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

E-K

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

L-R

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

S-Z

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

INSURANCE

Company	Price	Chg %
British Petroleum	147.50	+0.50
Shell	147.50	+0.50
BP	147.50	+0.50
British Gas	147.50	+0.50
British Telecom	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50
British Airways	147.50	+0.50

LEISURE

113	84	Bur & WA "A"	100	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
204	162	Port Leflore	160	0	0	0.5	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
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107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
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107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
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107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
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107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0	0.0	0.0
107	120	Bush & Holmes	120	0	0	1.0</		

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Weak pound and pit fears send Index down 16 points

By Derek Pain

Equities slipped and slithered yesterday, alarmed by the breakdown of the coal talks and the pound's weakness on the foreign exchange market against the dollar.

At the close the FT 30 share index was standing forlornly at 838.3 points, down 16.8 points. The FTSE 100 share index was lowered 21.6 points, dipping below the 1,100 points mark to 1,083.7 points.

Trading was again light but with jobbers starting the day with precautionary mark downs many of the speculators who have been backing the recent array of take over favourites were tempted to cash in their

Hawthorn, which has meandered from engineering to dental equipment and even into banking, but is now involved in protective clothing and safety equipment, gained 1 1/4 to 15 1/2 yesterday on persistent buying. Some, it seems, are expecting the company to announce a substantial acquisition.

still often substantial profits before they disappeared.

The dashing of the pit peace hopes was a savage blow to the market which had been quietly calculating that the TUC meeting at Brighton would produce the seemingly impossible breakthrough.

With the miners' confrontation now likely to drag on, the market was yesterday becoming increasingly fearful about the future course of the docks dispute.

The pound's weakness added to the dejection, mainly because its crash below the important 1.30 level is seen as destroying at least for the time being the growing chances of a further cut in interest rates.

The dollar's strength is based largely on expectations that transatlantic interest rates will be forced higher, thereby putting pressure on our own rates. Just to add to the market's tale of woe, Wall Street opened sharply lower and the money supply figures were judged disappointing. The 4 per cent

rise in M3 was at the top end of expectations.

Even before the money supply figures, Government stocks had been downhearted on sterling's weak performance. They fell into even deeper despair on the M3 out-turn and by the close were nursing falls up to 1/2 at the long end of the market.

The atmosphere of despondency was obviously not the climate for the takeover hopefuls - both old and new. Beer shares were flat following the surprisingly weak July output figures. Production, despite the warm weather, tumbled 2.6 per cent on the corresponding performance of last year. The first seven month output figure is now less than one per cent higher than in the same period last year.

Last month Mr David Nickson, chairman of Scottish and Newcastle Breweries, warned that beer sales had not responded to the fine summer sunshine. But many felt that Scottish, with its strong regional concentration and its big exposure to the free trade, was not typical of the industry.

Analysts were pointing out yesterday that high margin lager sales have continued to advance and the more widely spread national groups, such as Bass and Allied-Lyons, were continuing to do well. And after all the streamlining of recent years the brewers are now much fitter and leaner than they used to be.

Bass lost 10p to 36p and

Grand Metropolitan, the most diversified of the breweries, was cut 4p to 290p.

Builders Derek Crouch responded to trebled profits with a 8p gain to 82p but Wilson Connolly, another building group, fell 8p to 180p with its interim profits recording a more modest 21 per cent gain.

Profit taking, aided and abetted by the Bristol strike, clipped British Aerospace 10p to 343p after Monday's late flurry.

Automotive Products continued to reflect worries about profit margins and fell a further 4p to 54p. The shares have now fallen 13p since the interim profits announcement.

The general market drift erased the value of many leaders - such as Metal Box which fell 14p to 336p and Reckitt and Coleman, interim figures today, down 7p to 52p. The failure of a bid from Broken Hill Proprietary or anyone else for that matter - to materialize for Lasso left the shares 17p lower at 331p. Other oils were weak with British Petroleum, interim results tomorrow, losing 13p to 478p.

Enterprise Oil, a recent firm spot, retreated 4p to 97p. The second instalment of 85p on the partly paid shares is due by Wednesday of next week.

Elsewhere Eastern Produce rose 6p to 216p as India slapped a limit on its tea exports and Strikes Restaurants advanced a further 5p to 88p on the bid

97p on its profits standstill and Metal Closures lost 4p to 170p following and 11.5 per cent profits gain. Show group Lambert Howarth was marked up 8p to 168p in recognition of its 48 per cent interim profits gain.

Banks succumbed to the downward pressure although among the merchant bankers Kleinwort Benson edged ahead 5p to 380p on its interim statement. Jobber Smith Bros rose 5p to 101p reflecting the increasingly frantic pace of the City revolution.

Insurance stocks were mainly lower. Guardian Royal lost 10p to 595p. Interim profits are due today with the market expecting profits of £9.6m against £8.5m for the year ending next March.

Mansfield Brewery, the family controlled group, resisted the downward drift of beer shares yesterday, recording at one time a 25p plus to 399p. L. Messel, the broker, has nominated Mansfield as one of its provincial beer buyers and is forecasting profits of £9.6m against £8.5m for the year ending next March.

about £44.5m against £50m in this corresponding period last year. Sun Alliance, another announcing interims today, also fell 10p - to 386p. Market expectation is a dismal £11.5m against £23m.

Rowntree Macintosh, the sweets group which has enjoyed heavy speculative support as takeover rumours have swirled around, fell 12p to 306p as the Swiss controlled Nestle Group, one of the City's favourite contenders for Rowntree's, announced it was bidding for the American Carnation foods. J. Bibby, which has disclosed takeover talks with Barlow Rand, fell 15p to 278p.

Fidelity, the hi-fi and TV group, jumped 13p to 118p on the offer from Mr Swaj Paul's Caparo Industries.

Best performing index stock was that on-off take over favourite the Distillers Co. It lost 1p to 296p.

Equity turnover on Monday was 15,817 bargains, valued at £132.346m. Gift bargains was 2,407. Number of UK and Irish shares traded was 119.8m.

CRA lifts first-half net profit to A\$31m

CRA, the Australian mining company which is 50 per cent owned by Rio Tinto-Zinc the British mining finance group, raised attributable net profits for the six months to the end of June from A\$20.2m to A\$31.9m (£20.7m).

The interim dividend has been increased from 3 cents to 4 cents, where the payout is well covered by earnings per share which were 6.5 cents compared with 4.1 cents.

But CRA, which is expanding its interests in coal, iron ore and diamonds, called the first-half profits "modest" compared with the previous six months when it produced A\$49.5m.

CRA said that profits in the latest half had been adversely affected by the slump in base metal prices, losses from coal, and a strike at Broken Hill.

The profits were earned on a turnover which rose to A\$1.53bn in the comparable period last year.

In brief

● LAMBERT HOWARTH GROUP: Interim dividend for half year to June 30. (Figures in £000). Turnover, 8,448 (7,054). Pretax profit, 17 (350) after depreciation 222 (182) and bank interest six (same). Tax 238 (157). Earnings per share 5.97p (4.12p).

● DAVID DIXON GROUP: Final dividend for 1983 to March 31. Dividend 2.28p making 4.5p (2.22p). (Figures in £000) Turnover 14,302 (13,363). Tax credit 58 (credit 29). Minority 1 (-). Earnings per share 12.9p (12.32p). Shares 100p up 5p.

● ARMITAGE (GEORGE) & SONS: Interim results for six months to June 30. Interim dividend 7.5p (5p). (Figures in £000) Turnover 6,644 (5,981). Operating profit 1,073 (672). Pretax profit 1,028 (550). After interest payable 43 (123). Tax 206 (193). Extraordinary credit 4 (33 credit). Earnings per share 31.4p (21.1p).

● ROPNER HOLDINGS: Results for six months to June 30. (Figures in £000) Interim dividend 1.75p (1.75p). Turnover 18,158 (19,573). Operating costs 24,040 (17,598). Investment income 167 (529). Interest payable 1,074 (1,089). Profit before tax 3,211 (4,418). Tax 1,417 (685). Minority interest 76 (49). Earnings per share 6.8p (2.1p).

● WILSON (CONNOLLY) HOLDINGS: Interim results for six months to June 30. Interim dividend 1p (0.875p). (Figures in £000) Turnover 17,371 (18,162). Pretax profit 6,799 (5,622). Being housing and contracts 5,941 (4,631). Property sales 72 (369) and rents 786 (622). Tax 2,855 (2,080). Earnings per share 18.3p (18.3p).

● ROBINSON BROS (RYDER GREEN): Interim results 26 weeks to June 30. (Figures in £000). Group turnover 8,768 (8,351). Pretax profit 300 (798). Tax 142 (190).

● HAYES THOMPSON: Results for year to June 30. Dividends 2p making 3.5p (single dividend 1.5p). (Figures in £000) Turnover 1,332 (1,015). Trading profit 527 (262). Interest 23 (103). Pretax profit 404 (162). Tax 109 (11). Extraordinary credit nil (94). Earnings per share 9.37 (5.11p). Shares 116 down 5p.

● SOMPOTEX HOLDINGS: Dividend for year to April 31. (Figures in £000) Group turnover 4,566 (4,638). Pretax profit 104 (135). Tax 58 (credit 105). Extraordinary credit 56 (nil). Earnings per share 1.65 (10.38p) up 1p.

● METAL CLOSURES: Interim dividend 2.2p (same) for half year to June 30. (Figures in £000) Group turnover 44,890 (38,506). Profit before tax 3,339 (3,029). Tax 1,382 (1,242). Minority interest 33 (251). Profit attributable 1,684 (1,474). Earnings per share 7.9p (6.9p).

● SHARPE & FISHER: Interim dividend 0.61p (0.51p adjusted) for year to June 30. (Figures in £000) Sales 23,371 (19,673). Pretax profit 779 (575) being merchandising 399 (262) and dividend 380 (313). Tax 312 (167). Earnings per share 2.4p (1p adjusted). Shares 63p down 1p.

● In the United States, a small increase in coal prices has helped profit and prospects are encouraging despite the imminent threat of a US miners' strike.

In Britain, the company is restricted by union agreement to extracting its contracted monthly tonnage of coal, which is then stockpiled on site but said for by the NCB. If bad weather affected one month's extraction rate, however, Crouch would not be able to make up its contracted tonnage in succeeding months.

The Dowry Group, which has an international mining machinery business, says in its annual report that the miners' strike makes progress uncertain. So far, however, export orders for Indonesia, Australia and South Africa have helped replace NCB work and none of subsidiaries has had to work on short time.

Prices opened lower in active trading yesterday. The Dow Jones Industrial Average, which gained 1.10 on Friday, was down 6.95 to 1,217.42 shortly after the market opened following the Labour Day holiday weekend.

Declines led advances 647-278 among the 1,312 issues

Nurdin raises volume in market battle

The key word to continued survival at Nurdin & Peacock, the cash and carry wholesaler, is clearly demonstrated by yesterday's interim results. The business is volume driven with the necessary sacrifices being made at the margin. Turnover increased by more than 10 per cent to £264.7m while pretax profits could only manage an increase of less than 1 per cent to £3.5m.

It is an essential approach to take, given the ferocious competition in the industry. Margins are being slashed in an effort to stave off the threat from the multiples. In these conditions volume is all important if the business is to stay alive.

So far the play has worked and Nurdin's quest for volume has been aided by its expansion programme, both in terms of new warehouses and increased square footage at existing locations. This is now lowering and it will become even more important to generate genuine volume growth.

A product which might come to the company's rescue is its own brand cigarette, Red Band. It was introduced in July and has already become the brand leader in the Nurdin chain. The product is attracting additional customers into the warehouses and the independent retailers report it is boosting their own businesses.

However, it remains difficult to see where the real profit growth at Nurdin will come from. The company is running to stand still and increased volume only compensates for lost margins. The shares closed down 4p to 124p and raise little excitement. The price is backed, though, by some very attractive properties. They might just prove a bid which, if it came in cash, might prove difficult to resist.

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TEMPUS

Mr Paul Levinson has an interest.

The £900,000 is to be paid through 1.8 million Prestwich shares, only to the extent that Palan makes profits of £500,000 over the next two years. Meanwhile Mr Levinson is to become chairman of Prestwich on a three-year contract at £50,000 a year, index-linked.

He will be free to compete with Palan outside the United Kingdom.

Shareholders should oppose the deal at the meeting on September 26 to create the extra shares.

RTZ

CRA's first-half profits increase of 50 per cent to A\$31.9m is a reminder that this should be a vintage year for Rio Tinto-Zinc in a

weighty study made public yesterday but sent to fund managers a month ago, the stockbrokers Sheppards and Chase forecast that the mining finance house's attributable profits for 1984 would be up 14 per cent to £177m.

But the study is more cautious about the longer run. It points out that many of RTZ's major early operations, such as copper, lead and zinc, are cyclical and mature; that the management, good as it is, seems not to understand fully that investments are necessary (perhaps that Atlas Steel part of Rio Algom or Anglesey Aluminium) to maintain momentum; and that the shift in the group's centre of gravity from the older cyclical businesses to newer ones with higher earnings quality is incomplete.

Nevertheless, RTZ deserves credit for the extent to which it has avoided these pitfalls so far. While the market still thinks of the company as a copper stock, the biggest single source of earnings is RTZ Borax, eclipsing even the whole of CRA. And, on last year's basis RTZ Industries, which brings together the cement interests, was the second biggest.

These assets have two big advantages. First, they are not subject to the dismal fluctuations and low prices which characterize base metals. Second, a much lower proportion of their earnings goes to minorities. Thus the less cyclical element in RTZ's earnings has risen steeply in recent years.

CRA is also moving in this direction, particularly by diversifying into diamonds and aluminium. But there is no easy solution to the problem posed by its long-term dependence on Japan.

Investors should take their cue from Provident's determination to concentrate on the medium-term - most mining customers should return in due course to normal spending and payment patterns - and note that the group's arrears position is slowly improving, after the high jobless shock earlier

Hence previous bad debt provisions may prove available for write back into the profit and loss account. If brokers' estimates of a floating profit pool of £20m are correct, then continued profits - and dividend - growth looks assured. A third of debt is now funded at fixed rates, and this should help margins especially since loan costs never altered as interest rates fell. The shares are a hold at 160p.

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Provident Financial

News that the miners' strike had cost Cattle's, the personal loan specialists, about £250,000 in provisions, created a ghoulish sense of anticipation ahead of the interim figures from Provident Financial, a similar but far larger group.

But interim profits emerged 10 per cent ahead, the dividend goes up by more than 10 per cent. The Provident board went to great lengths yesterday to stress just how relaxed a view it was taking of the dispute.

Yes, there had been provisions, but they were not material. Of 500 branches, only about 40 had mounted serious arrears. Less than 2 per cent of the customer base - perhaps 20,000 clients - were involved.

Underlying this picture is the discovery that the miners presently enjoy greater financial resources than had been imagined; that many families have more than just a miner as an income source; and that the black economy is a flourishing sub-culture.

Investors should take their cue from Provident's determination to concentrate on the medium-term - most mining customers should return in due course to normal spending and payment patterns - and note that the group's arrears position is slowly improving, after the high jobless shock earlier

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Loss turned into £439,000 profit at Brook Street

Brook Street Bureau, the employment agency, made a strong turn round from losses to profits in the first half of this year. On sales up 37 per cent, it made pretax profits of £439,000 against a £131,000 loss in the corresponding period last year.

Brook Street, which has halved its number of branches to 100 recently, now intends to open 10 new branches this year. An interim dividend of 1p is to be paid.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	10 1/2%
Adm & Company	10 1/2%
Barclays	10 1/2%
BCCI	10 1/2%
Citibank Savings	12%
Consolidated Cds	10 1/2%
Continental Trust	10 1/2%
C. Hoare & Co	10 1/2%
Lloyds Bank	10 1/2%
Midland Bank	10 1/2%
Nat Westminster	10 1/2%
TSB	10 1/2%
Williams & Glyn's	10 1/2%
Citibank NA	10 1/2%

* 7 day deposit on sums of under £10,000. 7pc. £10,000 up to £50,000. 8pc. £50,000 and over. 8 1/2pc.

PSIT Property Security Investment Trust p.l.c.

Profit Before Tax Up Dividend Increase

Extracts from the statement by the Chairman, Mr. A. R. Perry.

- Profit before tax rose from £3.1 million to £4.0 million.
- Net asset value £1.70p per share.
- Developments at Tyne Tunnel, Gravesend and Andover.
- Overseas developments in Belgium and Florida.
- Ordinary dividend up by 25%.

Results for the year ended 31st March 1984

	£'000s	1984	1983	1982
Rents receivable	6,097	5,613	5,370	
Net property income	5,369	4,904	4,885	
Profit before tax	4,044	3,108	2,035	
Ordinary dividend per share		2.25p	1.8p	1.44p
Share Capital and reserves		87,346	73,170	48,749

Copies of the complete Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretaries, W. H. Stanfield & Co. 1 Love Lane, London EC2V 7LL.

The full accounts have been, or will be, filed with the Registrar of Companies and received an unqualified auditor's report except for a possible future tax charge should any provisions or investments be sold in future in excess of cost.

MONEY MARKETS

Interbank money held in the area of 11-10 1/2 per cent throughout the morning, easing to 10 1/2 per cent at lunchtime. By mid-afternoon, the rate started to fall, closing around 5-4 per cent.

Interbank periods went firmer on the weaker pound in early dealings. They eased back in the morning and were seldom more than 1/2 firmer on balance at midday.

Cleaning Service Rate 10 1/2% Discount Rate 10 1/2% Treasury Bill 10 1/2% Prime Rate 10 1/2% 3 months 10 1/2% 6 months 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

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Senior WP/Computer Operator

To supervise the full secretarial function of the Contract Department. Candidates must have experience of word processor packages on IBM PC and XT and preferably knowledge of Wang Office Information Systems (OES/OIS). Familiarity with programming in BASIC useful. Ref: 500/67.

WP/Computer Operator

Responsible for the operation of the IBM PC/XT computer and word processing requirements of the Project Control Group. Candidates must have experience of small computers and a knowledge of the use of software programs. Ref: 500/68.



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On aimed and creative architects dept of major public on in Central London want bright young secretary with good WP experience (must have passed £5.00 per hour. Ref: 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RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

Another chance for a bit of the Black Mountains

About 22,000 acres of the Black Mountain estate, Brecon Beacons, South Wales, which attracted enormous interest when they were auctioned earlier this year, are for sale again. A businessman bought the land for £385,000 before the auction, but the sale failed, and the owner, Bill Randall, is offering it at auction on September 17 through Barnard Marcus. The land - freehold subject only to common grazing rights - is made up of grass and heather and has several rivers and streams, and could be used for fishing (trout and salmon), shooting (rabbits, hares, foxes and black grouse), horse riding and grazing. The auction is to take place at the Kensington Hilton Hotel.

The Greek millionaire, Christina Onassis, has sold her four-bedroom Mayfair apartment overlooking Grosvenor Square through Lasemans for close to the asking price of £875,000 for a 50-year lease.

Oxon - for £350,000

Brook Lodge, North Stoke, Oxfordshire, once the home of Dame Clara Butt, is on the market for the first time for a long while at an asking price of £350,000-plus through Dudley Singleton of Pangbourne, Berkshire. The house was built around the turn of the century and extended in 1919 by Dame Clara. Brook Lodge, whose next-door neighbour is the film actor Michael Caine, has about three acres of grounds and 200ft of direct frontage on the Thames. The accommodation includes a principal bedroom suite, seven further bedrooms, drawing room, paneled dining room and a swimming pool.

Chair Cottage, The Heath, Weybridge, Surrey, formerly the home of the pop singer Gilbert O'Sullivan, is to be sold by the Esher office of Hampton and Sons, who are asking £115,000 for the single-storey property which dates back to the eighteenth century and has recently been completely renovated.

Bright opportunity

The Lighthouse at Point of Ayr on the southern entrance to the River Dee in north Wales offers the opportunity for an unusual residence for someone prepared to pay more than £15,000 through Knight Frank and Rutley's Shrewsbury office in conjunction with Cluttons. The beacon has not been lit since 1883 when it was superseded by the Dee Light Ship, but it was originally built in 1777. The lighthouse, partially rebuilt in 1820 when it was taken over by Trinity House, is about 60ft high and 18ft in diameter. It has been used occasionally as a residence but needs total refurbishment, with the added delight of two acres of surrounding land - at low tide.



Branchley Manor is a sixteenth-century manor house at Branchley, near Tonbridge, Kent. With two cottages, an east house for conversion and nine acres of grounds, it is on offer around £500,000 through Strutt & Parker's Canterbury office. The house, with views to the Downs and the Weald, has a massive Renaissance stone archway near the front of the house bearing the date 1577. It is said to date from the late fifteenth or early sixteenth century and once belonged to Cardinal Wolsey.

An approaching crisis?

Houses are bought and sold, the property market is healthy at the moment, prices are going up steadily but not dramatically and demand for certain sorts of housing exceeds supply.

That suggests that all is right with the world, and yet not one, but three reports from different public bodies in the last few days, show the other side of housing: a deepening crisis, leading to possible disaster in the 1990s, nationally and especially in London, and continuing difficulties for tenants of local-authority homes built using the Biron Wall Frame system of construction.

It was a considerable achievement for the National Federation of Housing Associations to persuade the Duke of Edinburgh, its patron, to chair an inquiry into housing, for at the very least it ensures a certain amount of publicity for its deliberations. The Association of Metropolitan Authorities has eagerly grasped the chance to put its views on housing to the committee, and they are depressing reading.

Making the comparison with improvements since the Royal Commission on housing for the working classes 100 years ago, the association fears that the improvements in public housing will be at risk if not lost unless the Government returns to a policy of large-scale investment soon.

The Government's policy, in line with people's aspirations, is to encourage home ownership. Now it stands at about 60 per cent; it is estimated that it could rise to 80 per cent. But at the other end of the housing stock, the association lists the difficulties: 1.2 million households on local authority waiting lists, 1.1

million dwellings unfit for human habitation, 390,000 dwellings lacking one or more of the basic amenities, 574,000 dwellings needing repairs costing more than £7,000, and another 2.5 million dwellings requiring repairs costing between £2,300 and £7,000. A further 1.5 million dwellings are suffering from major design defects.

That argues for a substantial increase in government spending on public housing, and the association believes the Duke of Edinburgh's committee may be the last chance to lead to a comprehensive plan to stop the decline in housing standards. The national lobby of criticism is reflected in a report by SHAC, the London Housing Aid Centre, which concentrates on the difficulties facing London, pointing out that there are 2.7 million people in the capital without a satisfactory home.

Again, the message is that the level of public spending must increase. The third report is published jointly by Shelter, the national campaign for the homeless, and the National Association of Biron Tenants, which for some time have been trying to persuade local authorities and the Government to establish whether flats and houses built by the Biron system are safe.

The report claims that the Government is complacent and is guilty of a cover up in its handling of an inquiry into the condition of Biron properties. If there is one conclusion to be drawn from this, it is that the Government is not simply going away. Pressure groups are seldom if ever satisfied, but there seems to be no chance of allaying doubts and fears until the Government is seen to be acting positively.

C.W.

BIDWELLS

AREDEENING - WESTMALL ESTATE
770 acres with magnificent Mansion House, 5 cottages, good modern buildings, over 500 acres excellent arable land with various pastures, 25 acres of woodland, 100 acres of water, 100 acres of fishing. For sale as a whole or in lots. Joint sale agents: Mifflin House & Balfour, Chartered Surveyors, 22 Rutland Square, Edinburgh EH1 2BB. Tel: 031 229 9679

Somerset/Wiltshire/ Dorset Borders
Most unusual and spacious 4-bed, semi-detached house built in 1900, on site of approximately 10 acres. Incorporating level but gently sloping land, with a large garden, 100 acres of woodland, 100 acres of water, 100 acres of fishing. For sale as a whole or in lots. Joint sale agents: Mifflin House & Balfour, Chartered Surveyors, 22 Rutland Square, Edinburgh EH1 2BB. Tel: 031 229 9679

THE HADHAMS, HERTS
Country house with 7 acres, 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 5 living rooms, 5 dining rooms, 5 sitting rooms, 5 study rooms, 5 office rooms, 5 library rooms, 5 music rooms, 5 games rooms, 5 hobby rooms, 5 craft rooms, 5 workshop rooms, 5 garage rooms, 5 parking spaces, 5 driveways, 5 gates, 5 fences, 5 walls, 5 hedges, 5 trees, 5 shrubs, 5 flowers, 5 vegetables, 5 fruit, 5 nuts, 5 herbs, 5 spices, 5 oils, 5 vinegars, 5 wines, 5 beers, 5 spirits, 5 soft drinks, 5 fast food, 5 takeaways, 5 restaurants, 5 cafes, 5 pubs, 5 clubs, 5 societies, 5 organisations, 5 institutions, 5 businesses, 5 professions, 5 occupations, 5 careers, 5 jobs, 5 employment, 5 unemployment, 5 poverty, 5 wealth, 5 success, 5 failure, 5 happiness, 5 unhappiness, 5 health, 5 illness, 5 disability, 5 old age, 5 young age, 5 death, 5 life, 5 everything, 5 nothing, 5 all, 5 none, 5 some, 5 many, 5 few, 5 little, 5 much, 5 more, 5 less, 5 better, 5 worse, 5 good, 5 bad, 5 right, 5 wrong, 5 true, 5 false, 5 yes, 5 no, 5 maybe, 5 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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Daville

BBC 1

6.00 **Cee-fax** AM. News headlines, weather, traffic and sports bulletins. Also available to viewers with television sets without the teletext facility.

6.30 **Breakfast** Time with Frank Sargent and Sally Scott. News from Ben Britton at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news; weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; programme choice at 8.15; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18; Mike Smith with the new Top Twenty between 7.55 and 8.00; horoscopes at 8.30; anti-racism advice between 8.30 and 9.00.

9.00 **Gherbie** Magazine programme for Asian women. Today's edition includes a discussion on the causes of the increase in mental illness among Asian women.

9.25 **Trades Union Congress 1984**. Vincent Hanna and Lord Scarlon in Brighton for the third day's debates. 10.30 **Play School**, presented by Brian Jameson (r). 10.50 **Trades Union Congress 1984**. Further coverage of the morning's proceedings. 12.45 **Cee-fax**.

1.00 **News** with Richard Whitmore and Sandi Marshall. The weather details come from Michael Fish. 1.27 **Regional News** (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles. 1.30 **King Rollo**. A See-Saw programme for the very young (r). 1.35 **Eric-a-Brac** (r).

1.45 **Writers' News**. Bernard Levin at Ayot St Lawrence, the Hertfordshire village of Bernard Shaw (r).

2.00 **Trades Union Congress 1984**. Coverage of the afternoon session. 4.08 **Regional News** (not London).

4.10 **Play School**, presented by Shereen Gilly. 4.30 **Battle of the Planets**. Animated science fiction series (Cee-fax titles page 170). 4.55 **Newsweek** with Howard Goodall. 5.00 **Playhouse**. **Come**. The first and final part of the adventure story set in Australia. 5.25 **The Good Life**. Domestic comedy series set in suburbia (r). 5.58 **Weather**.

6.00 **News** with John Humphrys.

6.30 **London Plus**.

6.55 **Film**: *Othello*. You are Awful (1972) starring Dick Emery. Comedy with Emery playing the part of Charlie Tully, the capricious and capricious character. Immediately before flying off to Switzerland with his latest love, Charlie finds it irresistible to dupe one more unsuspecting partner. Directed by Cliff Owen.

7.00 **Where There's Life** presented by Mervyn Stanger. Guest, Dr. Clemm Wipac argues that marriage lasts longer if the partners are alike (Oracle titles page 170).

7.30 **Coronation Street**. Is Bill Webster worrying over nothing?

8.00 **Benny Hill**. Comic sketches larded with innuendo from the master of the double entendre.

8.30 **Fresh Fields**. The first of a new series of domestic comedies starring Julia McKenzie and John Hodgson as the comfortably off husband and wife who, tonight, return to the hotel where the husband proposed, for an anniversary celebration (Oracle titles page 170).

8.50 **Minder**. A welcome return for a new series of the comedy dramas starring George Cole and Dennis Waterman. (Oracle titles page 170) (see Choice).

10.00 **News** followed by Thames news headlines.

10.30 **Crime Inc.** The final part of the documentary series on the Mafia families is entitled *The Old Mob and the New*.

11.30 **Entertainment Express**. 12.25 **Night Thoughts** from Mgr John Crowley.

12.00 **News** headlines and weather.

TV-am

6.25 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 8.39 and 9.37; guests, John Hart and Jim Davidson from 8.45; exercises at 8.46 and 8.50; the day's anniversaries at 8.51; consumer affairs at 7.14; Popeye cartoon at 7.22; Lloyd Cole pop video at 7.44; star romance at 8.15; Eve Pollard's gossip column at 8.34; gardening hints at 8.43 and 8.56.

TV/LONDON

9.25 **Thames news** headlines followed by *Sesame Street*. 10.25 **Dick Tracy** (1959) starring Robert Urich and Jaye Pazer. Young, wild, Louise Kingston shocks the residents of a sleepy riverside village when she decides to turn a room in her cottage into a tea-room. Directed by John Huston. 11.40 **The Little Rascals** (r) in Hook and Ladder.

12.00 **Rod, Jane and Freddy** with a musical story. Snowfall. 12.10 **Our Backyard**. What will Joan, Laura and Peter decide to call the new hatch Peter has built for Laura's rabbit? 12.30 **The Sublimes**.

1.00 **News**. 1.20 **Thames news**. 1.30 **A Country Practice**. Medical drama set in the Australian outback. 2.30 **Farmhouse Kitchen**. The first of a new series presented by Grace Mullen. Today she and Joan Hamill prepare home made preserves.

3.00 **Take the High Road**. Drama series set on a Scottish highland estate. 3.25 **Thames news** headlines. 3.30 **Bone and Daughters**. More trauma in the Palmer and Hamilton households.

4.00 **Rod, Jane and Freddy**. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15 **The Beatles** (r). 4.30 **Beauty**. With Matthew Corbett and guest, Geoff Capes (r). 4.40 **Cartoon Time**. Hyde and Hare featuring Bugs Bunny (r). 4.50 **Hold Tight**. Bob Carlisle meets the Country Westerners and Sue Robble talks to Spandau Ballet's Tony Hadley. 5.15 **Blockbusters**. General knowledge quiz.

5.45 **News**. 6.00 **Thames news**. 6.25 **What's Worth**. Presented by Penny Junor.

6.35 **Crossroads**. A Henry Pollard is sharp with Iris Scott when she enquires about his wife.

7.00 **Where There's Life** presented by Mervyn Stanger. Guest, Dr. Clemm Wipac argues that marriage lasts longer if the partners are alike (Oracle titles page 170).

7.30 **Coronation Street**. Is Bill Webster worrying over nothing?

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12.00 **News** headlines and weather.

CHOICE

GLORIA (Channel 4, 9.15pm). Benjamin Britten's opera as staged by English National Opera, could almost have been written with television in mind. In this (but only in this) it is like Britten's *Turn of the Screw*. Plot and characters are strong enough to invite close inspection by the camera, and the vast dimensions of the London Coliseum seem somehow to have been telescoped to create the intimate feeling of a chamber opera. I do not mean by this that Derek Bailey's filming of *Gloria* lacks spectacle (it does, in fact, offer much that dazzles the eye), only that the score is never overbearing, and the costumes and draperies and overall elegance of Tudor pageantry, I cannot decide whether Sarah Walker (as Queen Elizabeth the First) is a better singer than she is an actress. It is, in any case, a role

that largely makes the question academic whether the opera is a triumph or a failure. With only a pinch of salt, can cheerfully be swallowed. One more thing that might have escaped your notice is that *Minder* is uncommonly well photographed.

BRITISH ON HANCOCK (Radio 4, 6.30pm). Gives the wrong impression. Mr Briers is merely the linkman; the script is by someone else, and so are most of the judgments for and against the worried comedian who took his own life. In the main, an affectionate tribute, with Hancock's scriptwriters, Gail and Simpson, getting their full entitlement of credit and Dennis Norden accurately classifying Hancock with G and S as a comedy giant, but without G and S as just a comedian.

Peter Daville

Radio 4

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